

THE ETWDE

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Planting Time



SPRING is coming—on the other side of the Equator. Just now, when we are looking forward to the days of golden grain, purple fruit and bursting cribs filled with the wealth of the fields, our cousins below in the Tropics of Capricorn are casting their seeds into the awakening earth. In the same sense, this is the musician's spring time. What his harvest in May and June will be depends upon what he plants now. Now is the time for making plans, looking over new music, arranging classes—planting the seeds of success. As a text, take for yourself these lines (mixed in metaphor but not in common sense) from Butler's nearly-forgotten *Hudibras*: "As the ancients say wisely, have a care o' th' main chance, and look before you ere you leap: for as you sow, ye are like to reap."



Bright Music



THE people of many Slav nations claim that they are happiest when they are sad. Judging from many of the programs of recitals we have seen, many teachers are of the opinion that the American people must have the same inclination as the Slavs. We believe that the American people, particularly those who have not peered out of the lovely aureole of youth into the pains and sorrows that come with advancing years, went just as much bright and sprightly music as they can get.

Watch the wonderful illumination that comes in a child's eyes when you play a spirited march. See the wonderfully increased interest with which the average child will work upon such pieces as the Haydn Gypsy Rondo or the Haydn Sonata in D Major. Of course, music of an opposite character is necessary for contrast, and, in fact, many students will be found who prefer slow music. Nevertheless, the music of good cheer is the music of childhood and youth. The effect of bright music upon those who are despondent is indeed remarkable. It is the musician's duty to spread as much cheer and happiness as possible. Let him try to do in music what a writer suggests in the *Progress Magazine*:

"If you have a word of cheer,
Speak it where the sad may hear;
Can you coin a thought of light?
Give it wing and speed its flight;
Do you know a little song?
Pass the roundelay along;
Scatter gladness, joy and mirth
All along the ways of earth."



A Neglected Opportunity



A WRITER in one of the metropolitan papers makes the following complaint:

"During the past season I suppose I have heard a hundred or more young men and women do musical stunts where no programs were issued, and not 10 per cent. of them told the people, who were expected to listen intelligently, what they were going to do. They simply got up and sang or played, and we had to guess what they were doing for us.

"Why don't teachers who teach pupils music teach them at the same time to make the announcement of what they are going to do? Listeners would like to know what the composition is and who composed it, and they have a right to know. It wouldn't take half a minute, and would be worth a lot to listeners who like to know what they listen to."

There is much sound sense in this. A piece of machinery becomes twice as interesting if you know the purpose of it; a great painting takes on a new significance if you know the idea the artist had in mind in painting it; the picture of a great building becomes much more interesting if you know whether it is an opera house, a morgue or an aquarium. Why not let our auditors know something about the idea of the piece and something about the composer? The pupil who is unable to give this information in advance is a poor representative of the teacher's work.



Ethics in Education



ONLY a few years ago some aggressive, free-thinking school managers contrived to have the daily reading of the Bible "suppressed" in some schools. Not long thereafter impartial observers noticed that the pupils were not so tractable or so well behaved as formerly, and that the lack of ethical injunctions was making a noticeable difference in the characters of the little folks. Then other educators brought to light the time-old truths that learning in itself does not necessarily make character, and that the young need the continual inspiration of beautiful thoughts, beautiful pictures, beautiful flowers, beautiful poems and beautiful music. It is very probable that those schools in which the reading of the Bible has been abandoned will return to the fine old custom. Just now these schools have as a kind of substitute "devotional exercises" and what is called "ethical culture." The children are encouraged to memorize fine thoughts, such as the following from Cervantes: "By the street of 'by and by' one arrives at the house of never;" or the following from Goldsmith: "Our greatest glory is not in never falling, but in rising every time we fall;" or the following from Pope: "An honest man is the noblest work of God." The change has also emphasized the necessity for music as a means of inculcating a love for the beautiful and the harmonious. Similar to this has been the well-defined improvement in the decorative surroundings of the child while in school. Thus a movement which many thought retrogressive may produce most commendable results, although these results may come through retroactive forces.

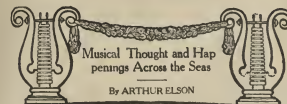


Another Kind of Education



Too little stress is laid upon the education which comes to us unconsciously. We are inclined to class as education only that knowledge which we acquire as a result of deliberate educational effort. But there is another kind of education which might be called "unconscious" education. It is made up of those facts which we have observed without really knowing that they form a part of our educational wealth. Take the case of the child of five who has never gone to any school or kindergarten. It has a little store of knowledge which is really quite astonishing when it is carefully considered. It has a vocabulary which would take an adult foreigner months to acquire. Its observations relating to its surroundings are in themselves the result of a kind of education which could not be secured in any school.

We have entirely too little of this "unconscious" education in music. Our pupils should hear more good music; they should go to more fine concerts; they should, when possible, hear music of all kinds, played upon all kinds of instruments and combinations of instruments. If it is impossible for your pupils to attend opera, oratorio and fine concerts, see to it that they have frequent opportunities to hear you play, and, if convenient, let them hear some of the world's greatest singers, violinists and pianists through the medium of the sound-reproducing machine.



Musical Thought and Happenings Across the Seas

By ARTHUR ELSON

WAGNER'S AUTOBIOGRAPHY.

WAGNER'S autobiography is proving a blessing to the space writers, and nearly every magazine has something to say about it. The material was dictated to Cosima Wagner at the villa of Tribschen, near Lucerne. Because the master's earlier life had been reflected in contemporary letters, which often differed in tone from the passages covering the same events in the autobiography, Dr. Julius Kapp argues that the book is the work of an embittered man. Writing in *Die Musik*, he cites from the book these lines about Wagner's sister, Cecilia, and her husband, Avenarius: "When I had brought home the 50 frames in solid five-franc pieces, and heaped them upon the table for our education, my sister Cecilia visited us accidentally. The sight of our property had a cheering effect on her. She had hitherto shown in her letters to me to interpose with us (i. e., Wagner and his first wife Minna); after that we saw each other often." Or again, "This lack of all means of help was felt by us with especial bitterness when my sister Cecilia had to take a summer place close by us. In comfortable circumstances, if not brilliant ones, these relatives dwelt by us in neighborly fashion, and came from house to house without our thinking it wise to make them acquainted with our endless embarrassments."

We may read, however, in the "Familienbriefe" that Wagner did borrow from his brother-in-law in Paris. In the eighteenth of these letters the composer writes: "Live happily, and remember us. As long as we mist you, our eyes are moist; so often do we think of you!" From this and similar comparisons, Dr. Kapp concludes that "The autobiography gives us Wagner's life not as it was, but as he saw it later, or wishes to see it." Yet this seems to be rather a rash conclusion, for who in the world would fail to be cordial in a letter to his creditors? The reader may safely trust that the book even differs from the letters.

Yet the work does seem unfair in one respect—its treatment of Minna Planer, afterwards Wagner's first wife. This is the more noticeable because Wagner himself estimated her more highly in later years, and stood back of Tappert in an article defending her honor. But in the autobiography her entire career is set forth and her mistakes dwelt upon with merciless detail. If Wagner himself were to be judged by the same thorough analysis he would not appear nearly so white as he is sometimes painted. But perhaps the reader must make allowance for the fact that the book was dictated to the second wife.

BRITISH OPERA COMPOSERS.

The *Revue Musicale* of the Societe Internationale has a symposium by British composers on the future of opera in England, and many of the answers coincide with the question of opera in English. Cyril Scott, with either modesty or braggadocio, said that if he had an opinion on the subject he would have been glad to give it, but, as things are, he could not see such a problem; but Scott writes mostly for piano. Stanford, with *Shamus O'Brien* and *The Canterbury Pilgrims* to his credit, upholds the cause of opera in English, and many of the others agree with him. Coleridge-Taylor says that London is sufficiently cultivated for opera in any language, but that the provinces need opera in the native tongue. A few hold that opera in a language that is not understood will always win popularity with the masses in England and America. One of these, Vivian Carter, says in *The By-stander*, "In my opinion, not to understand what is being seen is the secret of success for opera in England. Save it from Anglicization, which means its ruin."

The reader can pay his money for the *Revue* and take his choice of opinions. Opera specialists show that the three great producing countries (Italy, France and Germany) hear a large percentage of opera in the native tongue. If they can stand it, why can't we, as well as our Anglo-Saxon cousins? *The Sacrifice* and *Sainta* have marked a forward step in American opera, and if they fall short of the standards set by the opera, it is not because their librettos are in English. Some mention is made of the fact that foreign singers are very successful in their somewhat homicidal on-

slaughts on the English language; but time and study will easily solve this difficulty, and the day may be near when English will form a prescribed part of the foreign singer's education. Then the parrot-like enunciation and the lack of expression that we now meet will disappear. Such phrases as "Can it be my daughter?" or "She has not come" may easily be made ludicrous by excess of intensity; but a knowledge of proper idiom will bring with it a knowledge of proper emphasis. Decidedly the present writer favors opera in English—if the English is good; and the two operations named above show that it may easily be made good.

Meanwhile the operatic grind goes on. Sinding's *Saved Mountain*, in a prologue and two acts, will be heard first in Germany. *Der Schwaizer Doktor* by Sepp Rosegger, won high praise at Graz. It deals with a village doctor who is feared as a sorcerer, a girl whom he tries to win, and a jealous lover. The music is direct in style and very effective. Other new ones include *Die Schwestern*, a comic opera with music by Wenzel; *Der Teufelsberg*, a fantastic affair set by Ignaz Wagnhalter; *Die Heinkelheer*, a verismo production by Hlatze; and *Maler Kramer* by Franz Perlner.

Some of the most interesting and successful episodes of the Egyptian campaign proved a pleasing mixture of French marches and Oriental melodies. Bersa's *Im Eisenhammer* was held somewhat heavier in the greatest living operaticists. Heineke's early work, *Der Arme Heinrich*, coming after *Der Rosenkavalier* at Karlsruhe was called a real art work, and not, like the Strauss affair, a matter of a few good scenes.

In France the amplification of the production of *Les esclaves*, with music by Aimé Kunz, and a subject taken from a poem by Louis Payen, Laparra's *Opera* was well praised for its strength, while Debussy's operantation on the same text, under the direction of St. Sebastien, heralded as a great work. Among Italian works *Myrrha*, Grecian scenes, with music by Nino Alberti, proved quite successful. Other new operas are *Obre*, by Balla and Gaudino, from Heibel's *Judith*, by Don Giovanni Pagella.

In the orchestral field Strauss is said to be constructing another symphonic poem, on a subject drawn from Nietzsche. If it includes a thunderstorm, it will be the Berlin premiere he audible in America? Switzerland has had its annual Tonkammerfest, with its usual crop of native talent. Huber the Great was not especially represented, but the programs included symphonic and other works by Fritz Brun, Othmar Schneek, Paul Benner and Charles Chaix. On the orchestral lists at Budapest were a suite by Bela Bartok; Akos von Bantoky's *Salomonic* symphony, a rhythmic and charmingly novel symphony, a rhythmic and charmingly novel *more* by the blind composer, Attila Horvath. Eminent soloist Selim Palmgren's four Symphonic Pictures, *At Finland*, Antwerp heard the overture to an opera, *Le Amante de Roland*, and a trio of *Cantiques*, with orchestra by Joseph Ryckland. Madrid is always devoted to the Zarzuela, the Spanish form of light opera and has heard works by Sacal del Valle, Calles, Barrea, Torres, and Palacios.

Among choral works, *Dus Licht*, by Adol Lorenz, scored a brilliant success at Dortmund. Heidelberg applauded Haussager's two songs for chorus and orchestra. *Die Welt der Nacht* and *Sonnenaufgang*. Haussager's rich melodic genius deserves a wider appreciation than it has had hitherto. English choral novelties include *The Sings of Jesus*, by Walford Davies, a *Coronation Te Deum*, by Parry, and *Five Mystic Songs*, by Vaughan Williams. Elgar's new symphony is given frequently, while Bartok's new prelude to *Odysseus at Colonus* is a worthy addition to the repertoire.

In Paris, Gaultier's *Corège d'Amphitrite* was considered very pleasing at a Châtelet concert. The nationalistic music society has set out a string quartet by Szamozmai, variations by Dukas on a theme by Debussy, and a violin sonata by De Castra. Novelties for wind instruments are Jean Vadou's suite *En Montagne* and Florent Schmidt's exquisite *Reflets d'Allemagne*. From the *Die Musik* comes a Rossini anecdote. The composer was visiting the town of Dupuy, who had come to his house to rehearse the part of "Arado" in *Wurm*. Tell. Suddenly the singer took a high C. Rossini

rushed to a cabinet of delicate Venetian glasses and said, "Nothing broken?" Then he added the remark, "How wonderful!" The tenor, flattered at first, was soon undeceived; but when he spoke of the public plaudits aroused by his high note, Rossini made amends by telling him to sing it twice if it succeeded.

BRIGHT IDEAS IN A NUTSHELL.

I HAVE found the organization of a "concert club" of great value in my work as a teacher. The members arrange to go to concerts in a body, and by securing the seats well in advance, and buying a large block of seats at a time, we are enabled to secure excellent positions and oftentimes better rates. Before visiting the concert we secure as much of the music as possible and study it at the meetings of the concert club. Oftentimes the artists play numbers which some of the club members have studied, and this is particularly helpful to them. In addition to this the "concert club" has found it necessary to secure a musical library in order to extend its means of securing information regarding the works heard. This has come book by book, and quite a "respectable" collection has been gathered. By all means form a concert club. Mrs. H. R.

Somehow my pupils' recitals failed to have the drawing effect that I wanted them to have. I determined that they were not being conducted with the proper dignity. Consequently I inserted the following line on my next program: "The same attention is expected at these pupils' recitals as you would give at Carnegie Hall at the recital of the greatest living pianist." Hereafter no one will be permitted to enter during the performance of a number. Pupils should avoid anything suggesting whispering." The plan worked admirably. J. J.

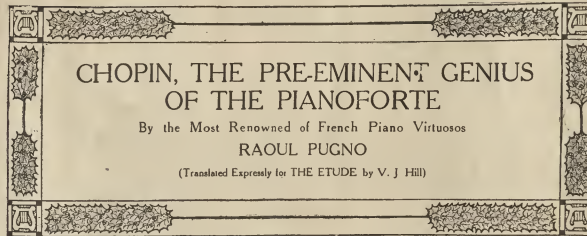
FOR THE PUPIL WHO LACKS INTEREST.

I have such a pupil at present. He lost interest in the regular lesson and nothing seemed to arouse him, until one day I changed the routine and gave him an easy duet and let him look it over mentally a few minutes, and then had him play it at sight with me. In that way he had to think for himself, and it aroused his interest and curiosity as to what was coming and how it was sound. Since then the lessons have been a pleasure. I. W. R.

Your "Bright Ideas in a Nutshell" column suggested a few ideas to me. This was to conduct a pupils' recital which I termed a "Nutshell Recital." I procured several large English walnuts of the kind frequently used for favors at dinners; and instead of containing mottos, as the dinner favors do, I inserted a slip of paper with the name of a piece upon it. My pupils were for the most part well through the fourth grade of the *Standard Graded Course*. They selected the nutshells from a dish, not knowing what piece would be written upon a piece of paper. They were expected to play the piece or study written upon the slip. This is an admirable test of proficiency and readiness. O. W. P.

For my closing recital in June I requested each of my pupils to bring an acorn. In the meantime I had prepared a large tree, representing a family tree. The roots of this tree were labeled Palestrina, Haydn and Jandel. The lower part of the trunk was labeled Haydn and Mozart. Further up it was labeled Beethoven. After Beethoven the tree continued to branch out. One was an Italian branch, one was a German branch, one was a French branch. There were also English, Scandinavian, Russian, Hungarian, Bohemian, Polish and American branches. Then I told the old story of the tree, the pupil "Norris" the mighty oak, and with thisparable showed the growth of modern musical history. I. W. P.

I wonder how many of THE ETUDE teachers have ever tried telling the pupil sit at the teacher's piano for part of a lesson. When I see the slight indication of lack of interest I stop the pupil at once and take my seat at the piano keyboard. Then I tell the pupil "Now you are the teacher; I am the music closely, and if I make any mistakes, keep track of them." I always make several mistakes purposely. The pupils are delighted to catch them, and their powers of perception and comprehension are increased many fold. E. R. L.



CHOPIN, THE PRE-EMINENT GENIUS OF THE PIANOFORTE

By the Most Renowned of French Piano Virtuoso

RAOUL PUGNO

(Translated expressly for THE ETUDE by V. J. Hill)

The following article, which first appeared in Europe in *Le Courrier Musical*, is one of the most sympathetic and illuminating appreciations of the genius of Chopin we have ever seen. Coming as it does from a master of the keyboard who has devoted a large part of his life to the study of the works of the French-Roman composer, it has a special significance for ETUDE readers.—Editor's Note.

THERE is a period of production in every artist's life which is in no way governed by his actual age. Corelli did not produce brilliantly until thirty years of age; Mozart was famous at ten, and d'Annunzio at fifteen. Frédéric Chopin was one of those ardent souls whom a precocity of genius exhausts before their time, and who only seem to hasten to produce because they are mysteriously worried of the shortness of their career. With Chopin, however, this precocity was not accompanied by the kind of feverish excitement so often found in persons of his temperament. On the contrary, his humor was exuberant, lively, jocular, and childlike in its simplicity. He was never observed to be melancholy, but had rather an unusual ardor for living as well as appreciating the everyday things.

His love of the country was as profound as filial piety. The nobility of his nature shone forth on every occasion; in the unequalled tenderness—almost a worship—that he bore his mother; in the way in which he loved his friends; in his exalted patriotism; in the sublime ideal he held before him as a musician; in the delicacy and self-respect which always governed his sentimental fervor; and even in the never-fading elegance which so well gave expression to his deep-rooted moral impeccability.

Born amid romanticism, he had little taste for any revolutionary artistic tendencies which savored of bombast and vulgarity. In the sadder moments of his passionate life, in hours when sickness made of him an extremely sensitive being, he never lost a certain chivalric courtesy and aristocratic gentleness. His work never expressed his bitterness. What he met, except in transforming it, with due reverence for art, into his own language. When alone in his lodgings he improvised freely amid a solitude which enveloped him either as a storm, or as a tender friendliness, free to sing, to feel, to be moved by his awakened voice, his happiness or distress in life. But when he wrote his art was sustained by a firm reticence of style which sternly expressed any inappropriate utterance. Whatever the transports of his lyricism, even the frenzy of certain passages of his bursts of inspiration, he always reverts—I do not say master of himself, for he often gives the contrary impression of being carried away by a wind which sweeps him along—but faithful to his superior limitations of the conscience of a great artist.

THE INTIMACY OF CHOPIN'S MUSIC.

For Chopin was a great artist! and if we do not find in him the robustness of Bach, the commanding breadth of Beethoven, or the unusual fertility of invention of Mozart, he seems, at least, to have had the privilege of expressing himself in his art with incomparable emotion and sincerity. His charm is of the most striking kind because it is that of grief-of his grief and ours. There is nothing of the aloofness and archness which we find in the music of the other hand he is much more "intimate." His music is a melancholy yet sweet collection of love letters, of secret memories, of short poems and confidences, as well able to charm us as to help us look into our

own hearts. In listening to Chopin we feel intimately understood, interpreted or judged by the clear-sightedness of an observer accustomed to the landscapes of the heart. When we consider this, we cannot help but feel grateful for this innovator, bold in his simplicity, who was able to reach the noble attainment of "opening a new era in music. For we cannot deny that he has opened wide before us the age of subjective and significant music in which we find ourselves.

We must remember that before him the only classic forms known were the sonata, the concerto, variations,



RAOUL PUGNO AT THE PIANO

and, of course, those light compositions of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, joyous or restrained, noble or alluring, tender or sprightly, whose appellations such as Chaconne, Mazurka, Tambourin, Passacaille, Rigaudon, Courante, Gavotte, Minuet, etc., explain that they constituted nothing but elegant pretexts for dancing. Chopin deliberately broke asunder from the last-named charming but superficial forms of production. He was too independent to submit to fixed forms, and in his Sonata in B-flat minor the first part is of decidedly classic form, immediately afterward he relaxes his hold and gives free way to his genius, providing us in the finale with four sublime pages of poetic fervor wherein he liberates the whirlwind of the great lyricism in which Chopin at this period lifted himself to Beethovenian heights.

CHOPIN THE INNOVATOR.

Nevertheless, whenever he attempted to use the classic forms he succeeded fairly well. His sonata for piano and violoncello and the trio (for strings and piano) are, however, much less representative of his temperament than the rest of his work. He was more at home in compositions of a nature less distinctly limited, such as Etudes, Preludes, etc. At this time, Etudes were but irksome means of acquiring technique. Chopin presented them such a technical utility, but communicated to them such a musical quality that they have become magnificent tone poems of enormous variety, traversing the entire

scale of human passions, from the peace ineffably expressed in the Etude in E major to the heroic enthusiasm that there in C minor. As to the Preludes, before his time there were only those of Bach. The Well-Tempered Clavichord is a casket which encloses pearls; has the only jewels of musical literature capable of containing and summing up in themselves all the divine art of music. They are therefore worthy of the ancestors of Chopin's Preludes. And what worthy descendants are his.

What tender charm emanates from the Prelude in D-flat major! With what sombre, dramatic mystery the G sharp persists throughout a part of the Prelude! And in that in G minor, how shall we describe the delicious morbidez of that phrase in the left hand which unfolds itself in such a seductive way. The admirable prelude in E minor is not inferior to lamentation and hidden sorrow to that of Bach in B-flat minor. It was while listening to the melancholy theme of the Prelude in A flat, so the story goes, that a great artist, suffering from illness, wished to die, as if that phrase alone would have been, in his falling eyes, worthy of accompanying his last breath. As to the Prelude in C minor it echoes like a sepulchral cry! But need we cite more? All that music can give of grace, passion, lyricism, dramatic force, beauty, and the most fitting of the pages which at the same time demand a tremely facile, flexible, pianistic technique.

Chopin seemed destined to enlarge the boundaries of the secondary forms of music. Attracted by the charm of certain discoveries in the realm of folk-song, making his footing on the pages which at the same time demand a tremely facile, flexible, pianistic technique, Chopin seemed destined to enlarge the boundaries of the secondary forms of music. Attracted by the charm of certain discoveries in the realm of folk-song, making his footing on the pages which at the same time demand a tremely facile, flexible, pianistic technique, Chopin seemed destined to enlarge the boundaries of the secondary forms of music. Attracted by the charm of certain discoveries in the realm of folk-song, making his footing on the pages which at the same time demand a tremely facile, flexible, pianistic technique, Chopin seemed destined to enlarge the boundaries of the secondary forms of music. 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the Impromptus, the Concertos, and his adorable *Barcarolle*. Important as are his contributions to piano literature, however, his output in the field of orchestral music, vocal music, and dramatic music is restricted. But it would be difficult to discriminate against him on this account. We need fear in him no mediocrity. Chopin never wrote except when under the influence of an imperative need to give expression to his inspiration, and he has given us only the best of his thoughts. He is an artist who never sought to dazzle by the display of a facile talent; he rather forced his melody to serve his knowledge—something limited as regards the science of music—to externalize his mental state. But whatever be the setting of his compositions, the title by which he designates them, the character of which they bear the imprint, his music always possesses a uniformity of inspiration which renders it recognizable among any. We feel that all this radiance comes from one same center, the warmth from the same hearth, which is his soul—the soul of a lover, patriot and poet.

Although his music is sometimes subtle, even a little morbid, it nevertheless remains admirable music, which is enriched by characteristic harmonies or allowed to die away in elusive echoes. The music allures us with its charm, saddens us with its profound sorrow, or stirs us with the spirit of a most ravishing *ardor*; whether we are swept on by the storm rhythms of its wildest caprices, or are uplifted by its dignity and exhortation. Nevertheless, that which is uppermost is the individual, the personal element, which always conveys the intention of uttering of revealing something, and confiding it to us as to a friend. The consequences of this intimacy has been a gradual development of the art of composing piano music. Before Chopin the piano seemed to have attained the height of its power and means of expression. That prodigious artist and colossal performer, Liszt, had distinguished a further technical means of expression of which, had in a way, compelled the piano to lay aside its usual idiom, and lend itself to a luxuriance of new tone combinations, and to passages of dizzy velocity. As Liszt, like Schumann, went further; he profited by this new idiom, but he failed to tire of it, and lost inspiration. By it he made the piano a multi-colored instrument, the resources of which, it now appeared, had not by any means been exhausted. It was a revelation new and unsuspected powers.

We cannot truly claim that Chopin's music contains variety of orchestral timbre. Quite the reverse; his music is always, and solely, piano music, inspired by the piano, and written for the piano. But how much more varied in style! How much richer the colors from his palette than anything offered hitherto (if we except the sonatas of Beethoven!)

THE TECHNICAL DEMANDS OF CHOPIN'S MUSIC.

When playing Chopin, differences of sonority become essential; the tonal effects must be weighed, their treatment studied and modulated like the effects of the voice. We are led to require of the piano a great many effects not heretofore contemplated; that never before we have thought of demanding, and which respond to the exigencies of the most delicate material. The originality of his passage-work, the grace, and somewhat odd preciosity of his groups of single notes and appoggiaturas, call for a different touch. In a word, it is an entirely new piano school that was initiated by Chopin, which by its sweetness, adaptability, variety, rhythmic combinations, and the independence necessary to the fingers, clearly distinguishes it from Liszt's school, more encumbered with superfluous notes and often obscured by useless polyphony.

For a long time Chopin was the victim of an unjust reputation as a decadent, effeminate composer, and in the eyes of many generations he passed only as a singer of sickly imaginings and morbidly sentimental. He was monopolized by a certain public of cult-faddists from which it is fitting that he should be rescued. Chopin was neither neuritic nor staid; he was tender, but not weak; refined, but not rhetorical; and his most delicate passages have a distinction which preserves them from decay. In the background of his music there is always a more or less clear intimation of high spirits, which is really much more in evidence than melancholy; there is more rhythm than abandonment.

Certain interpretations have mutilated, distorted and almost eliminated the clearness of his works. That Chopin had an emotional, flexible style of playing is

certain, and he preferred to play to women. But this was because he disliked notoriety, and the frequent clamor of men irritated him. Nevertheless, his playing was sane, fervent and passionate. Beethoven reproached him for his too great rhythmic independence. This does not necessarily imply that he was effeminate; and it is rather in response to an exalted sense of accent and phrasing that he varied rhythm, which in consequence became more sensitive, less mechanical, more profound musical. We must therefore guard against regarding Chopin as an artist imbued with mannerisms and affectation, but rather admire in him the musician of a proud race, who interpreted with rare nobility, delicacy and robust vigor the sweetest sentiments and the most profound passions of the human soul.

YOUR "STOCK-IN-TRADE."

BY CHARLES E. WATT.

Each person in this work-a-day world, unless indeed he be one of the now-somewhat rare class of absolute idlers, has something to sell, a "stock-in-trade," to be exact. It may be labor, it may be education in one of a thousand branches; it may be some acquaintance, such as a dry-goods grocer, or what not, but it is something to be exchanged for money, and if the holder would get the money in return for it he must, in some way, let the public know what he has for sale.

There are some things in this world so fine and so rare that the public will hunt for them and will, when found, urge the holder to sell. A few products of the natural world are almost invaluable and will bring great prices whenever found; a few art products, such as diamonds, are eagerly sought by connoisseurs. A few, just a very few, artists (musicians included) have attained a unique development which makes their work sought eagerly by the whole world, and which makes it absolutely unnecessary for them to make a name for themselves, knowing full well that the public will be only too eager to offer to buy.

But the musicians who reach this enviable position are very few, a Patti now and again, a Paderewski takes his quota. Since it is often enough to keep us alive to the possibility of such good fortune, and while the actual recurrence of these rare ones is so infrequent, there has grown up in the music world far too much of a feeling that the ethics by which these geniuses may live should apply to all the lesser lights. In short, there is a widespread thought that advertising is belittling to art.

This is just the reason why so many composers of the past have starved, and so many music workers of today eke out a scant livelihood instead of existing in at least comfortable circumstances. They simply do not deign to advertise. They stay where circumstances put them. They hide their light under any convenient covers and "wait" everlastingly for the world to come and uncover them.

Meanwhile there is lots of room in the world for them if they would but bestir themselves sufficiently to find the proper environment. Hundreds of localities need more musical instruction. Hundreds of people ought to hear more good music. If you are ready either to give public demonstration of the form and execution of others or to teach your own possibilities.

Find a favorable place, and, once there, let everybody know of your earshot or within reach of the local printer's ink know that you are there. Let them know, too, what you can do and what you want them to do. If necessary, put your hand to missionary work whatever kind seems best, but don't expect any longer that this will make you famous or rich.

Worship your art in your own heart all you like; cultivate a taste for purity in the art wherever you go; have ideals a-plenty, but remember, too, that you must live in the world, and you would live at all well you must advertise in all the possible ways, and let this include space in local newspapers and in musical magazines, by giving many pupils' concerts, by putting of yourself into a thorough advertisement in all the possible ways, and above all, by doing your own thing, and above all, by doing your own thing, and above all, by doing your own thing, and above all, by doing your own thing.

GETTING THE MOST OUT OF FIVE-FINGER EXERCISES.

BY ELLIOT H. PAUL.

The practice of five-finger exercises and scales is the most trying problems that a music teacher has to contend with to get pupils to practice them and to realize their value. The following suggestions, which are practical for the moderately advanced pupil, tend to make this practice more interesting, and enhances its value by demanding more concentration than the ordinary mechanical practice.

Set the metronome at a moderately slow tempo and practice in strict rhythm from the time you begin until the exercises are finished. That is, rest just one measure between exercises, and if you have to get another book or find a new place, stop an even number of measures. In this way the entire practice is in mind and strict attention must be paid all of the time. This also helps very much to develop the necessary sense of rhythm for ensemble or orchestra work.

Another good plan is to practice all exercises in contrary motion and with the hands crossed. This breaks the monotony, requires more concentration, and helps to make the hands absolutely independent of one another.

Strike as quickly in playing slowly as you do in the more rapid tempo. Place the finger carefully over the middle of the note and strike firmly and decisively, then get ready for the next note. The value of slow practice is that you have time to think about every note, and consequently it impresses the mind more strongly. A perfect understanding between the mind and fingers is the secret of piano technique.

Five-finger exercises should be practiced in all Modern music demands the use of the thumb of the right hand and the little finger of the left hand on the black keys. This also helps in learning to transpose.

Do not practice scales with the conventional fingering entirely. Scale playing is not perfect until you can play in any key, starting with any finger.

Pay especial attention to the weak side of your hand. Play, a few minutes each day, exercises which require the separation of the 3rd, 4th and 5th fingers. The following have been found very helpful in gaining strength and independence of these fingers.



PURPOSE IN PRACTICE.

BY MRS. JAMES P. EVANS.

No student should practice without having a well-defined objective point. He should know every minute of the time he is at the keyboard just exactly what he is working for. He should have an ideal continually before him—a real purpose to attain. To be able to shed the shell of conventionality, and to follow a fixed idea; to do to rest with it, rise with it, and work up to it, is like digging for treasure.

Men bear exposure, sickness—all the horrors of the worst vicissitudes of fate, for a glimpse of shining gold. Direct this wonderful power of concentration, which is a part of the infinite upon one department of knowledge, and from this effort other departments will open their doors to us.

All things not directed from that which is best in us must some day perish, while one true motive or well-directed desire adds new and higher ideals to itself and lives, spreading light to all about it.

The law of nature and the law of practice is: "Do the thing and you shall have the power; but they who do not the thing, have not the power." With a real purpose in mind, difficulties which seem mountain high, will crumble and fall.



MODERN PIONEERS IN THE ART OF PIANO-PLAYING

By JAROSLAW DE ZIELINSKI

[Editor's Note—Mr. de Zielinski's extremely instructive article "Great Innovators in the Art of Piano-Playing" which appeared in the July issue may be read as an introduction to this discussion of the more recent composers for the instrument.]

CHOPIN, THE INCOMPARABLE.

CHOPIN, who taught the staccato before the legato in order to give his pupils an independence of fingers, was a different type, yet his three sonatas are seldom heard. The first one, in C minor, Op. 4, has been denied to us; the second, Op. 35, in the stately and moody key of B flat major, is a work of exceeding originality and strangely fantastic structure; it offers four beautiful movements, though of little, if any, affinity. Speaking of this work, Schumann remarked that Chopin had here "bound together four of his maddest children." The third sonata is most attractive on account of its finale, which is decidedly of a bravura character. James Huneker is absolutely correct when he says that Chopin's style was formed when he arrived in Paris, and that he was the creator of a new piano technique. It was a technique free from conventionalities, unfettered by pedantry, something emphatically different from anything heretofore practiced; much of it is made evident in the famous étude, Op. 10, No. 3, after playing which Liszt once said, rather sadly, "I would give four years of my life to have written those four pages." Schumann and Mendelssohn (1809-1847) copied some of Chopin's fascinating effects, the former in his F sharp major rondo, the latter in one of his songs without words. Later Wagner made good use of similar procedure, viz., the evolution of the harmony of an ordinary chord of the seventh of a melody based on the six-four chord.

THE CHANGES LISZT WROUGHT.

One of the great innovators in the art of piano-playing was Franz Liszt (1811-1886), whose style both as player and composer grew and changed enormously with time. Brought up on Mozart, a little Bach, considerable Haydn, and still more so of his teacher, Czerny, he came forth, as Edward Dannreuther (1844-1923) expressed it, "the mature master—a curious conglomerate—who, both as player and composer, chose to wear motley garments to the end of his days." The invention of alternating sixths between the two hands has been accredited to Liszt, but this trick was really made use of by Johann Sebastian Bach, as, for example, in his *Aria mit 30 Veränderungen* (var. 20), where he thus practices triple sixths. Liszt makes also frequent use of a rapid alternation of identical notes covering three octaves by throwing the fifth finger over the first. Mendelssohn made use of something similar within two octaves in the Rondo Capriccioso, while Brahms (1833-1907), in his second concerto, tries to distance Liszt by covering three octaves with notes of different pitch. A pianist trained in the Liszt school, which keeps the wrist a bit higher than the knuckles so that a coin placed on the top of the hand would have tendency to slide down to the keys; a pianist thus trained would have no trouble in playing Hummel's music with the greatest smoothness and fluency; *per contra*, Hummel would have cried out against Liszt's études as unfit for the instrument, *unaccomplissable*.

This takes me back to one Francesco Pollini (1763-1846), a pupil of Mozart, who asserts in his once famous method that other Italian and German contemporaries of Cramer and Clement did not hold the hand in a horizontal position, but rounded it, i. e., the knuckles high and the fingers low, though according to the teaching of these two masters the hand should be held horizontally. Evidently Pollini knew something of modern requirements which deal with the position of hands and fingers in regard to the key-

board, and deduced considerably all physical exertion if the entire weight of wrist and forearm are brought into play. Liszt knew this maxim; he adopted it and taught it, and to-day every pianist knows that whatever movement power the fingers may or may not exert can be augmented by the full or partial weight of wrist and forearm, while for purposes of relief or further increase of power any desirable exertion from the elbow or the shoulder can be superadded. Examples of combinations offered by Pollini in one of his *Thirty-two Exercises in form of a Toccata* can be found in one of Clement's pieces, also in a Beethoven sonata; but they are mere happenings. Pollini's work presents an elucidation of the ideas which served Thalberg as basis for the unfolding and development of a style peculiarly his own, that of singing on the piano, which instrument by this time was capable of considerable sonority. Thalberg's works are remarkable for melodious phrases, delicate sentiment and passages of great beauty, grace and brilliancy. Parish-Alergus (1810-1849), a brilliant and exceedingly clever harp player, was really the first to introduce the pedal for the support of certain notes, while the hands were thus made free to play other notes, accompaniments, or even a melody. Thalberg (1812-1871) made good use of this invention (vide his fantasia "Moise"), but Liszt did it incomparably better (*Rhapsody No. 1, "Macbeth"*, etc.). Beethoven anticipated such a possibility (*Largo* in Op. 2, No. 2), likewise Weber (opening of *Concertstück*), and years later Mendelssohn in the introduction to his capriccio, Op. 22.

The highest point of absolute independence as regards consideration of any or all adopted rules is the B minor sonata by Franz Liszt, dedicated to Robert Schumann, and his only work of that kind. Some hypercritical writers have tried to prove that it is not a sonata because it is only of one three-part movement, and that Liszt does not stick to the established form of the so-called classical period, but substitutes a style of his own, namely, a further development of the exposition and development, in place of the conventional recapitulation. Nevertheless, it is, as C. A. Barry wrote some years ago, a work in which "all the leading characteristics of a sonata in every respect are fully maintained within the scope of a single movement." The above is only a rough estimate of one versed in didactic analysis as Henry G. Hanchett, who calls it a gigantic, wholly admirable and original work. Indeed, its very complex organization is due to a musician's liberal mind and shows the art of uninterrupted succession which was thought of already by Beethoven.

BRAHMS NOT AN INNOVATOR.

Brahms, for whom Schumann stood practically as sponsor when he declared him a "giant" has also left us some sonatas, of which three (Op. 1, 2 and 5) are for the piano, and to Schumann they were "unverschleierte Symphonien." That they are not "claviermäßig" goes without saying. Brahms was not an innovator in piano technique, but he strove to build on Schumann and Chopin, developing the beauty of the triplet and progressions of sixths, which make most insinuating music. We may seek in vain for new subtleties of form or new effects, but there is a newness, a sensuous element that appeals to the interest, particularly in the smaller pieces, the intermezzi, rhapsodies, etc. of his later life. Although, according to Nitzsche, Brahms had the "*Melancholie des Unvernünftigen*" (the sadness of

Rubinstein, who left among some stupendous things four sonatas for the piano (Op. 12, 20, 41 and 100). His facility in writing was as great as his art, but he belonged to no school, and founded his school, his conquest of all possible technical difficulties placed him apart from all others, both as pianist and teacher. Rubinstein loved the works of Mendelssohn and Schumann, and positively detested Chopin, whom he always proclaimed as the very "Claviergeist"; as technique with him was the means to an end, and never the end itself, he played but little of Liszt's music, which for him was not music at all, while Brahms was conspicuous by his absence from the programs of the famous historical recitals.

DEPPE'S IDEAS.

A tone and touch teacher of importance at one time was Ludwig Deppe (1828-1890), whose pupil, Elizabeth Caland, tried to make clear her method in her book, *Die Deppe'sche Lehre der Clavierkunst*, published in 1897, while Anna Fay made the first in the theatrical and choral director widely known in this country. Some years before publishing her book, Elizabeth Caland and Tony Bandmann studied with Frederick Horace Clark, an American student of Liszt, who had always proclaimed as the very "Claviergeist"; as technique with him was the means to an end, and never the end itself, he played but little of Liszt's music, which for him was not music at all, while Brahms was conspicuous by his absence from the programs of the famous historical recitals.

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"Strike all this difference should be 'Twice Tweddle-dum and Tweddle-doo!'"

Charles Soullier wrote a few years ago that this fascinating form, the sonata, had died with the eighteenth century; if so, it has come to life again with all the energy of modern language and the requirements of a modern tradition. The great and the great are not from established rules were Balakirev and Rimsky-Korsakoff; their musical perception led them to realize the color of every note, and they burst the bonds that held Chopin, Schumann, Brahms, Liszt and Wagner. And the principle? It is simply this, that every given note attracts other notes without regard to any scale, consequently chords attract other chords without reference to the well-worn cadences. In brief, it is not music in the traditional sense, but a new music, and not on scales, consequently all dissonant chords become consonant by the very reason of their existence, and I refer my readers to some splendid examples of this new school in the works—particularly sonatas—of Balakirev, Scriabin, Stravinsky, and Scriabin, Delussy, Dukas, Ravel, etc. Like the poetry of to-day, it is music for the musically educated, complex to a degree, embodying most up-to-date ideas of pianism, backed up with a finger, wrist and arm ability that would have jarred even Clement and his erratic pupil, John Field (1782-1837).

Summing up: Haydn worked on the solid basis of Bach, Mozart understood the instrument better than Haydn, continued the grace and sweetness in his music, Clement, to whom he owes everything, invented effects which were like a new world to his instrument; they were innovations of the most important nature. Liszt and Rubinstein extended these problems far beyond the limits of the piano school, while the modernists, the men of to-day, have added to the already existing educational attainments a training in a knowledge of complex combinations of some of the above and other combinations as colors and, remaining independent of any or all scales.

"According to 'Grove's Dictionary of Music' this engraving was written by John Field. It is not the one used by Swift, to whom it has often been attributed."—*Editor.*

"Their music is in all things—if men had ears... Their earth is in an echo of the...—*Lord Byron.*"



"THE ETUDE" DEBATE

"Shall Music Teachers be Required to Pass an Examination Before They Are Permitted to Teach?"

Replies from ETUDE readers to the arguments of Dr. J. HUMPHREY ANDERSON... Affirmative

State examinations would put nine-tenths of the present music teachers out of business. That is exactly what ought to happen...

Dr. J. HUMPHREY ANDERSON... Affirmative
Mr. E. M. BOWMAN... Affirmative
Mr. J. LAWRENCE EBR... Affirmative
Dr. H. C. CLARKE... Negative
Mr. LOUIS C. ELSON... Negative
Mr. W. S. B. MATHEWS... Negative

With the June issue THE ETUDE introduced a new idea in journalism. It took the form of a printed debate in which three distinguished educators pleaded for the affirmative and three pleaded for the negative.

THE ETUDE does not attempt to take any positive position in this contest before pro or con. We feel that the verdict belongs to our readers.

Many parents are entirely ignorant as far as music is concerned, and they trust implicitly in the teacher. As a safeguard to the public, music teachers should be compelled to take examinations in musical pedagogy and let the best workers win...

If number is any indication, this question has been decided in the negative by our readers, as far as "No" letters have been received...

If a person were required to pass an examination before being permitted to teach music, it would not necessarily follow that that person, after having been granted a certificate, would make an exception...

Educate the parents so that they may know what their children are doing. Let the mother be present during some of the lessons and see if the teacher is demonstrating and explaining the difficulties in a satisfactory manner...

There are now hundreds of unpretentious music teachers doing a valuable missionary work in small communities. Many are self-taught and would not be able to pass difficult examinations in higher musical subjects...

The greater majority of parents are no more qualified by personal knowledge to select a competent teacher of mathematics or the dead languages. Our school systems for the most part compel the teacher of science and languages to have a certificate before he can teach in public schools.

By introducing examinations in music study the musical world would place a restraining hand upon one of the growing evils of this country, to wit, the process of education which permits us to be content with a merely a superficial knowledge of things. America is to offer national wealth to the most ignorant understanding of music, hence the most direst disaster of faulty musical intelligence...

All honor to him who searches out the mysteries of the art himself and by his own gifts and by applying the experiences of others succeeds. Let our teachers hold more credentials which show by compelling them to pass an examination before they are permitted to teach...

Youthful teachers whose intuitive teaching ability is strong but who lack the necessary funds to finish their own education will be deprived of ever reaching their goal if they were to be thus crushed. The young teacher can at least teach as much as he himself knows. His pupils are under no contract, and as soon as they feel that they are able to get on their own feet, they are free to go to a competent teacher. Don't question his ability or his rights. Shuttle we slaves to arbitrary rules which can never become a measure of real art. Stop to measure intuitive artistic ability and the wheels of musical progress will run down.

Msrs. LAURA A. GISSLER (California).

Fifty per cent of my work is in straightening out mistakes and in correcting errors which have literally been drilled into the minds of my pupils by previous incompetent teachers. It is most discouraging both for the pupils and for their parents to find that after the expenditure of considerable time, money and energy the work the pupil has done is really a texture of failures. I had one pupil who had had seven teachers and was nevertheless ignorant of some of the greatest essentials in elementary musical training. If the music teachers do not take some means to suppress these "fakes," teachers the laymen will be forced to demand some diploma or some credentials for his own protection.

EMULOUS SMITH (Michigan).

The cost of "standardizing" music teachers would be so great that it would become necessary to raise the rates for musical instruction generally. Of course, in the case of the very rich this would not be of much importance, but the poor would surely be affected by the raise in rates of instruction. With the middle class the increased rate would cause great concern. Struggling professionals or people "on a salary" who either by inheritance or education have refined tastes find the increasing cost for necessities a serious problem. Consequently music study becomes a luxury, and luxuries are forbidden when the income is small.

BARRETT HARRIE.

I have been teaching in a town of fifteen hundred for five years. Of my thirty pupils, several are well advanced in the Mathews' Graded Course and will give individual recitals soon. These recitals show the pupil's ability's habits, which, after all, is a better proof than a certificate or diploma. Many of these pupils will make excellent musicians. Of the one hundred and fifty music pupils in this town, very few could spare the money or time to prepare for an elaborate State examination; nevertheless, they provide the very best possible material for extending musical culture in our district. For this reason I am opposed to government examinations which would compel us to discard many useful music workers.

Mrs. A. L. JOHNSON (Nebraska).

We talk of the advancement of music in America, and where, pray, can we do more than by seeing that the instruction of the musicians of to-morrow be qualified to do it? The student has the right to have his own teacher, and might even fail in the examinations, yet be excellent teachers.

JOHN H. BRANSON (Massachusetts).

The art of music begins where the science stops. Laws tending to hinder the progress of music become a travesty upon what the teacher who has a reputation according to his worth, and his remuneration will correspond with his reputation. Teaching is an art, and the teaching of the art of

music is beyond the limitations of any statute. Laws pertaining to musical instruction should be equally applicable to painting and literature. Imagine any just law prescribing how an artist should use his brush! Must he be of tons—no two teachers shade alike. What State law can prescribe what shading a teacher shall do or shall not do, or how much or how little? Inconsistency is the wall of the unfortunates crying for a State law, and really for what purpose they know not.

JAMES W. PIERCE (California).

The examinations themselves would doubtless be of technical rather than a musical nature. A good technique is necessary for a teacher, but not so necessary as the innate ability to impart knowledge. Every teacher in the course of his own work is an examiner of his own ideas and methods. If he has success with his pupils what more is necessary?

WILLIAM JARDEE (Massachusetts).

The majority of the parents of our pupils are intelligent enough to know when their children are progressing. If the pupil does not progress it is the duty of the parents to seek another and better teacher. This is more than to raise the standard of music teaching than a thousand boards of examiners.

AMY L. STANFIELD (Oldachma).

State examination and supervision of music teachers is not feasible on account of the general indifference of the public, which does not realize the ethical value of music nor the importance of competent musical instruction. The time is not ripe for delegating to the government the power of regulating the music teacher's profession, and it is doubtful if even under the most favorable conditions, such legislation would ever accomplish the desired results. The organization of the teaching profession into an organization to be affiliated with the American Federation of Teachers would accomplish more than state examinations.

F. ADALBERT REIDFELD (Washington).

No. A thousand times no! The idea of a license to teach, issued by the State, is plausible and attractive at first glance, but in practice this would give the open door to a lot of mischievous wickedness. The art of music would become materialized, debased. Much more than musical knowledge and playing ability is needed to make the good teacher, and this "much more" no State Board can possibly pass upon. It is true that much poor work is being done by persons untrained to teach, but the number of unprepared lay teachers is gradually diminishing, thanks to the diffusion of information about music, the work of eminent teachers and writers, and an ever-widening musical atmosphere. Time, with its strenuous musical activities, will bring the needed remedy. When truly good musical people far and wide set a standard for teaching, backed up by public demand, then will the mist in the profession little by little disappear. To me, the art of teaching music must develop from within, and not be regulated from without.

CARL HOFFMAN (Virginia).

Some of the most important attributes of a real teacher are not revealed by the usual examination of his knowledge of technique, harmony, theory or teaching repertoire. Many successful teachers in the examinations might have the technique of a Rubinstein and be equally learned in the science and theory of music and yet be an inferior teacher. Other candidates might know only half the technique, and might even fail in the examinations, yet be excellent teachers.

Why could not a staff of competent examiners be created which should examine, say, a class of six or ten pupils from a number of different schools, select a candidate for examination, and, by a judicious standard of examining, base their granting or refusal of a license on the work of the pupils?

This plan would not prevent the masses from being taught by incompetent teachers, but it would prevent the masses from being taught by incompetent teachers who would suggest licenses of various classes (first, second and

third) to be determined, also, by the pupils of the teacher.

If only one general license were offered, many teachers would, upon securing this, suspend all further study while with licenses of varying degrees of excellence there would always be something to spur the teacher on to higher places.

LEROY B. CAMPBELL (Pennsylvania).

Legal license would doubtless thin the ranks of music teachers, but this could not last long, as open fields of labor must necessarily open up opportunity for ambitious, and therefore will soon be filled again with workers.

And opposed to this temporary loss will stand the far more important gain of having competent workers only, in whom students and parents will have confidence.

It will furthermore raise the standard of music as an educational value in the non-musical's eye (who now very often ignores the importance of music), and therefore music will become a more established and vital branch of education.

HENRY JANSEN (Manitoba).

The study of music is not a necessity, but an accomplishment, an art, a medium through which is taught rhythm, concentration, refinement and self-culture. You cannot wear it, eat it, nor drink it. There is no law, of the United States or of nature, that compels the public to patronize any amateur or professional musician. Patrons earn their own money and have a perfect right to spend it as they see fit. In almost every community there are a number of reputable teachers whose terms are in reach of all. The very act of standardising itself is "prohibitive" and "unjust," and a stumbling block in the way of future progress.

JOHN FACTOR MILLS (Alabama).

The condition of common school education was in the same place fifty or more years ago that music teaching is now. The arguments are constantly against examinations for teachers were doubtless used then against such methods. Early educators had a hard fight to establish our present system of education. It is not enough to have the best schools, which, though it may not be perfect, few will deny is superior to the old haphazard methods. Thus anybody "kept school" who could persuade people to subscribe and send their children. The music teacher has the same method, and it often takes no more knowledge of music to do this than it took in the old days of the "three R's."

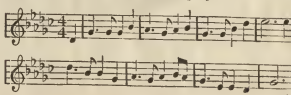
Because we cannot have at once a perfect system of examinations is no reason for deserting. Examinations must come slowly and apparent failures are but steps to success.

Every music teacher can make a beginning at home by grading up the work of his own pupils and by teaching a love for exact knowledge and a hatred of shams and musical "fakes."

FANNIE GILBERT (Kansas).

NOWADAYS when there is so much talk about scales, whole-tone or otherwise, the same scales are constantly turning to the Orient to find "new" scale forms among the relics of an ancient past, it may be well to remind ourselves that the principal scale of the Orient is precisely the same as that which forms the basis of many of the simplest of the old folk songs of Scotland, Ireland, etc.

The scale on which the Gaelic folk songs are now known as the Pentatonic Scale. The word "pentatonic" simply means "five notes," and the name is used to account for the fact that only five notes are used instead of the seven to which we are accustomed—the fourth and seventh being omitted. In other words the Pentatonic Scale can be found by simply playing on the black keys of the piano from G flat up. A very familiar instance of a melody founded on this scale is Auld Lang Syne.



CAN YOUR PUPILS LISTEN?

LA VERNE H. BROWN.

It is a comparatively easy matter for a pupil to listen to the resolution of a chord while he is playing, but still some do not do it. By way of illustration, let us refer to Mendelssohn's Songs Without Words No. 22, measure 20, first group. The group should be heard through the group and should also give us its correct amount of time in the first chord of the second group. This tone must stand sentinel in its place, rich, round and full, without being harsh or offensive. The C can best be taken by a short, quick stroke of the fourth finger with a drop of the wrist. The tone will then "sing" as desired. One step more must be taken with the pupil. He must play this passage in such a slow tempo that he can hear the tone singly for quite an instant before the other notes of the group are taken, and he must also hear it as it rides supreme over these other notes. He can hear this in the first practice of this measure only in a very slow tempo.

Can your pupil hear the legato effect of a melody passage? To illustrate what real legato means it is a good plan to overdo the idea in a five-finger exercise. Take C, D, E, F, G with the fingers of the right hand. With each finger possessing its respective piano-key, but not resting on it, count slowly "one and" to each key, putting the finger slowly down quickly on "one" and raising it quickly to its original position on "and" after the second piano-key is played, etc. It will be noticed that no piano-key is released on the first "and," and also that there is an overlapping of tone. This is legato exaggerated. Now take a melody, for instance Schumann's About Strange Lands and People, Op. 15, and treat it in the same manner during the first week of practice, and the legato effect will be realized; it can be heard.

Can your pupils of the early grades hear the chord changes of an irregular progression and enjoy them? I find that it works well to have certain measures copied, perhaps six times, asking that the passage be played, exacting from the copy. The music tablet is in evidence at the lesson and the pupil can take pride in playing for me from his own copy. I truly endorse the use of the music tablet as an aid in teaching. Very often you will notice the pupil humming it, turning the copy, and his confidence in this art of listening will be repaid ten-fold.

WHEN THE MOTHER INTERFERES.

BY LULU M. VOST.

SOMETIMES a fond mother will enter the room very cautiously while the lesson is in progress, and say a word or two of encouragement. The young aspirant for pianoforte fame. Instead of having the desired effect, it has usually the reverse. Anything that takes the mind from the lesson is detrimental to the progress of the pupil, even if it is only a small fly innocently walking down the page, may be more or less annoying to the ever-attentive teacher. The troubles are not all confined to the piano teacher. Oh, no! The voice teacher may have her share. This is confronted with something like this. "Oh, Mrs. M., your daughter has a beautiful throat! She went skating yesterday and took a awful cold, so that her voice was scarcely audible this morning." You will excuse her from the lesson, today—she cannot even practice. Perhaps the young lady in question is obliged to miss two or more lessons on account of a cold, which, by exercising a little bit of common sense, might, perhaps, have been avoided.

Then, there is the parent who has "excuses" ready "has had such a sore finger he could not practice" until just before the lesson. The young gentleman stands listening with a very injured air, bordering on indignation. This air of indifference is carried on all through the lesson. Why don't parents place their children entirely in charge of the teacher, at least during the lesson hour? School teachers are not often interfered with, but the music teacher suffers all kinds of interruptions.

LAYING THE FOUNDATION FOR VELOCITY

How Great Speed May Be Attained if the Right Beginning is Made

By E. M. BOWMAN

From "A Musician's Letters to His Nephew"

"This instrument from Mr. Bowman's excellent and popular discussion of the foundation work of the piano student has to do with an open work to various and expert teachers. The student, however, may spend a most profitable hour in reading and exercising the fingers. The matter is taken from Mr. Bowman's forthcoming book, 'A Musician's Letters to His Nephew.' In this well-written volume written to an imaginary nephew, the subject really being the 'how Mr. Bowman himself was at one time. This book lives in small towns in Vermont, and is not in position to take up his master's work. It is a book that is bound to live in the hands of Mr. Bowman's nephew, who is bound to live in the hands of his nephew. —Forsyth's News."

In my last letter I tried to show you the importance of forming a good legato touch in the very beginning. The legato touch once mastered, it is always easy to learn the different forms of staccato—the correct forms, too. The chief difficulty, in the beginning of piano study, is to avoid acquiring faulty forms of staccato. The reason why so many young pupils form bad habits in touch is that they are anxious to begin playing music pieces too soon. It is easy to understand this. The family are music lovers; they wish to hear "something," by which expression they mean a piece; the child loves music, too, and very naturally longs to "play something." That is the very thing that you have wanted to do, and doubtless your father and mother have the same idea as yourself and are impatient to hear your first piece. For that purpose you are now away from home. It is unlikely that either your parents or you have thought, prior to your coming to town, to play like an artist by and by, or to play even passably well; it would be positively necessary for you to have such fundamental training or preparation work as I am requiring of you before attempting to really play pieces.

DOING ONE THING AT A TIME.

In laying a foundation, we should study and practice one kind of touch or one kind of passage at a time. We should strive to do that one thing as well as possible and to establish the habit of so doing. When the single things can be done rightly and freely, then two kinds of touch or two kinds of passages should be put together. This, of course, is much more difficult, but if the single forms have been mastered the double or complex forms can be also. Little by little the mind and the playing machine may be trained to do wonderful things. The complex things will become just as easy as the simple things. Indeed, there seems to be no limit to the varieties in touch, or degrees in power and delicacy and endurance, possible to the pianist's hand. But the training must be done in the right way. If Miss Proctor has had the experience of beginning in the wrong way; if she was allowed to play pieces having complex things to do before she was able to accomplish simple things, for example, if she piece required a staccato touch and she had a hard legato in the other, or one hand had a steady touch while the other had soft repeated chords, and she found herself utterly unable to make it sound as her teacher played it, she will understand what I have been saying to you, and will tell you that it is all true and worth your heeding.

TRAINING SHOULD BEGIN YOUNG.

Your father has, I am told, some of the finest Morgan horses in Vermont. There are racers among them. In training them for their career as racers or roadsters, he knows that great care and skill are required to establish, while the horse is yet colts, the very best gait and style of which they promise to be capable when fully grown. Almost every person would know that much, and that when people begin to talk about music and such an

artist has played or sung; this or that concert by some great orchestra; or such and such an opera that they may have heard, one would imagine from the conversation that those talking were well educated in music and well informed as to general principles in music and where there is probably no subject about which the people think they know so much and which they talk so boldly and glibly as music, and, after all, no subject on which they speak so superficially and often ignorantly.

Living, as do your parents, at a distance from musical centers and their advantages, it would be surprising if they were well informed as to the best methods of musical instruction. It is surprising, indeed, that they have discovered your musical talent and have brought themselves to the sacrifice of sending you away from home, in order that you may begin to study before it is too late to train your hands for a musical career. What an example to other parents, living in the country, who have musical children! Happily, musical conditions are growing better every year. Musical papers, books, good and cheap editions of the best music, good concerts and discussions about music and methods of teaching, not forgetting the advantages afforded by the telephone and the radio, are doing great things for the cultivation of the people in almost every city, town and farming community in our country.

GRACE VELOCITY.

But, as I said at the beginning of this letter, today I wish to talk to you about one of the most important points in the development of your skill in music. Some day you will need to play scale passages or arpeggios, or mixed forms of scales or arpeggios, etc.—Miss Proctor can tell you what I mean—at the rate of one thousand or twelve hundred tones a minute. I have pupils who exceed that speed. This means that their muscles and nerves have been trained just right; that right conditions have become a habit, and that they have practiced for five years or more. I have talked to you about the best position of the arm, hand and fingers, and have given you exact directions how to get the best quality of tone from the piano. From this time on, I wish you to train your fingers to make quick movements—movements that can be made just as quickly as possible, without stiffening any muscles.

Be very careful not to stiffen the wrist. You will be more likely to do that than almost any other wrong thing. The muscles which move the fingers very easily get "mixed up," so to speak, with the muscles which control the movement at the wrist. While playing with the wrist, the tone is hard, the fingers no longer work freely, the tone is hard, and the entire act of playing is raw and unmusical. Frequently, when you or the other hand, you must pressing it with the other hand, or by having your teacher or some one else do it for you. If it bends smoothly when you and I went fishing down Davis' brook and you caught the big trout at the mill-pond—your wrist is all right.

Like your ears and your nose, your wrists will now and then have their own share of work to do. The balance of the time they hold the work to do, their work then being to hold the hands in only—never a stiff wrist.

QUICK MOVEMENTS.

I wish now to make you understand the value of the "quick movements" about which I have been

writing. You are, I know, the merest beginner in piano playing, but you cannot begin too early to train your fingers to do these quick movements. Every time you make any sort of a motion quickly, you are training the nerves and muscles to act more and more quickly. After some years of this kind of practice you will discover, to your skill and speed will be greater than the skill and speed of others who have not received this suggestion or heeded it.

Only a small proportion of all the boys and girls who start out in learning to play the piano who ever get beyond a certain degree of speed or power. The reason for this, I am quite sure, that they are not taught from the beginning to make quick motions. It seems to be natural for teachers and pupils to think of

- (a) Trying to strike the right key.
- (b) Trying to strike the keys for a loud tone; but,
- (c) Trying to strike the keys with quick-but-possible motions, and to lift the fingers from the keys the same way, is an idea that does not suggest itself. Possibly this is because the difference in value between a quick and a slow motion is not noticed so easily as it is between right and wrong keys or between loud and soft tones. But, by heeding this matter very carefully and for years, and my experience makes me quite certain that this view as to the value of quick motions is correct. Therefore, very earnestly ask your Miss Proctor to say the best of attention to my advice and keep it up until you know by your own experience that it was good advice. Then you will not need my advice to cause you to continue the practice.

BEGIN SLOWLY.

Every form of exercise—rill, five-keys, scale, arpeggio, etc.—should invariably be begun with long tones—56 to 92 tones to the minute, according to skill—never faster than 92 in the slow form, no matter how skillful the player may be. With the metronome at 56 to 60, one has time to raise the finger to playing position, pose it in correct shape, stop up nervous energy, and then deliver the finger-stroke with the utmost speed. In an equally important manner, the finger that is to strike a note should be lifted to its position and poised for a stroke. Let each finger move up and down, not only with all possible quickness, but also with perfect ease and independence from all the other fingers. Keep the paper-test under the fingers in the table exercises.

Send the wrist also, for pianity. When the exercise goes well, in this slow tempo (rate of movement), it may be played twice as fast, the tempo to one tick. Then three, four, and, later on, eight. This should be called playing the exercise in "ones," "twos," "threes," "fours" and "eights." The most valuable of them all will always be the "ones." In the "ones" you will be making just as quick motions as you possibly can; therefore, you will be working for finger-speed just as truly and perhaps more sure than in the "eights." In the "eights" the fingers follow each other faster, but the motion of each separate finger is not a bit quicker than in the "ones." The finger-motion in both cases is "as quick as possible," therefore, between the slow forms ("ones") and the fast ("eights") there can be no other difference than in the quickness in the succession of fingers.

SLOW EXERCISES NOT DULL.

Pupils imagine that slow exercises are stupid and dull. Into your practice, if you play long tones, put this idea of quick motions, as well as the careful study of hand-shaping and limber-wrist conditions, and it will be just as interesting as exercises requiring faster playing. For, in this foundation work and you will find that, in a much shorter time than could be gained in any other way, you will acquire speed, power and quality. The quick motion of the finger makes for the quick motion of the whole of the finger make more power; therefore, more power (momentum) is force that a moving body gathers as it moves. The quick-moving finger, having more power, has less need for muscular effort or excessive flexion, and, therefore, more of a better quality. These three are important points to be remembered.

The quick-as-lightning attack of the key (with the free hand or arm) is the source of this advantage. Do not forget that some day you will be proud of knowing this that you were of catching that big trout in the mill-pond.

Your affectionate uncle,
EDWARD

Characteristic Dance Forms

NOTES UPON FAMOUS NATIONAL DANCES

(The first part of this article appeared in THE ETUDE for July. The information in this series is compiled from many different sources, and practice with each reference matter difficult to obtain in any other way.)

LÄNDER (Land-ler). Another German name for this is **LÄNDERL**. This dance originated in Styria (Austria) and is a peasants' dance, resembling a waltz or Tyrolienne.

WEBER—"Der Freischütz"

LOURÉ (Lour). A French dance of slow time and dignified character, which derives its name from an old instrument of the bagpipe species. It is 6/4 or 3/4 time. In later times it was taken at a more rapid tempo.

SCHUBERT

MALAGENA. See PANABANO.

MARSH (Ger., MARSCH; Fr., MARSCH; It., MARCIA). The slow march is played at the rate of about 75 steps a minute, and the quick march at about 108. The march is common to all nations and is either in common or 6/8 time.

MAZURKA (Ma-zur-ka). This work is found in all kinds of forms in the Russian, Mazurek, Mazurke, Maszurka, Maszurka, Mazurka, Mazurka, Mazurka, Mazurka, Mazurka, Mazurka. All refer to the same dance. It is Polish in origin and derives its name from the province of Mazovia. It was known as early as the sixteenth century. It is usually lively in character although some Mazurkas intended as solo numbers are played at a slow tempo. The Mazurka is usually played quicker than the POLONAISE, but slower than the quick WALTZ. The best known Mazurka rhythm is a dotted eighth followed by a sixteenth and two quarter notes. A strong accent usually comes on the third beat of each measure. In most Mazurkas the melody ends upon the second beat of the last measure. Chopin was very fond of this form and in his Mazurkas he introduces many Polish national airs. These give each MAZURKA in his fourteen sets a markedly national character.

CHOPIN, Op. 33, No. 4

MINUET (Ger., MINUETT; Fr., MINUET; It., MINUETTO; MINUETTO). A slow stately dance in triple time, generally 3/4, invented about the middle of the seventeenth century. Haydn introduced it into the sonata and Beethoven has glorified it into the scherzo. The Minuet is typical of the form in which most dances are constructed. It consists of two main parts. The first part is in two divisions (a) a strain, or tune, of eight or more measures, which is repeated, (b) a longer strain than the first also repeated. The second division, or "Trio" is constructed the same way. The Trio is followed by the first division without repeats, leading to a "Coda," or "tail-piece," to finish off the work.

ALLEGROTTINO MOZART—"Don Juan"

PASSACAGLIA (Pas-sa-ka-jia-lye-ah). (Fr., PASSACAGLIA; PASS-RETE; Sp., PASSACALLA; It., PASSAGGALLO, PASSACAGGIO.) A stately dance in triple time, generally constructed on a ground bass. It is related to the CHACONNE (q. v.), and is thought by some to be the rural predecessor of the Minuet.

HANDEL

POLACA (It., Pol-shak-ah). See POLONAISE.

POLONAISE (Pol-shak-na-iv). Also spelled POLONESSE and POLONAISE.) A Polish dance in 3/4 time. Its rhythm is not unlike that of the BOLERO, though it

is much more dignified and stately. It is capable of the greatest possible range of expression. Sometimes fiery in character, sometimes more languorous. Chopin has used this form to convey some of the deepest sentiments of which his profound genius was capable. The rhythm of the bolero predominates, but is frequently and syncopated in both melody and accompaniment is common. The melody often ends on the third beat of the measure instead of the first, as usually the case with most dances. This feature is contrastive accent coming upon second beat of the last measure. The Polonaise tempo resembles the March played at a rate of speed best described by *moderato*. Piano soloists often make the mistake of playing too fast. This contradicts the stately origin of the dance. It was said to have been used for court processions of noblemen and noblewomen before the court of the king. The Italian form of the world is POLACA. Although the Polonaise rises to its greatest heights in the compositions of Chopin, it was by no means neglected by the older masters. Bach wrote three, and Handel, Beethoven, Mozart and Schubert were also fond of the form.

ENERGICO CHOPIN, Op. 40, No. 1

POLKA (Pol-ka). A lively national dance originating in Bohemia. The time and place of its origin are uncertain, but the name is comparatively modern. A writer in a Bohemian magazine in 1860 claimed that the dance was devised by a servant girl in 1830 and that the music was first written down by a local musician. The popularity of the dance became most extraordinary in the forties. In fact, it was termed a "Polka mania," hats, clothes and streets were named after the polka. The music is written in 2/4 time. The tempo is about that of a military march. The metronomic mark may be placed about 108.

MODERATO RUBINSTEIN, Op. 82, No. 7

QUADRILLE (Ka-dre-ell') (It., QUADRILLA.) A French dance of five figures, namely, (1) *Le Pavillon*, (2) *La Fete Spring*, (3) *La Ponde (The Fowl)*, (4) *La Pastourelle*, (5) *Le Pivale*.

REDOWA (Red-do-wah). Also spelled REDOWAK and REDOWAZKA. A lively Bohemian dance and nowadays in 3/4 time, but formerly alternating 2/4 and 3/4 time. It is similar to the POLKA (q. v.).

MODERATO HELLER

REEL (Ger., WALZER; Fr., VALSE; It., VALZER.) A popular dance in 3/4 time thought by some to have originated in Sualbia. There are three kinds of waltz: the slow German waltz (see LÄNDER), the ordinary Vienna or *Trois Temps*, and the Quick-step or *Deux Temps*. It is too familiar to need an example.

REEL of Talbot

RIGADON (Rig-oh-don'). (Eng., RIGADON.) An old French dance of the nature of a jig. It is in 6/8 time. It is said to have been introduced at the court of Louis XIII by a dancing master named Rigad.

GRISO

SALTARELLA (Salt-tab-rell-ah). Also spelled SALTA-RELLO and SALTELELLA. A light skipping dance in 6/8 rhythm. The name is derived from *saltare*, the Italian word, "to leap."

ALLEGRO VIVACE LACOMÉ

SARABAND (Sarra-band') (It., SARABANDA; Fr., SARABANDE; Ger., SARABANDE.) A Spanish dance of Moorish origin. It is of a slow and stately character in 3/4 or 3/2 time, and has a strong accent pronounced over the two measures which precede on the second beat of the second half of the last beat. It is danced by a single performer. The Saraband occurs in the Suite after the COURANTE (q. v.). Castanets are often employed in this dance.

Andante sostenuto HANDEL

SEVILLILLA (Say-gue-dee-va). A Spanish dance in 3/4 time. It is peculiar in that the performers sing while dancing. A guitar and castanets are employed in the accompaniment. It is in rather slow tempo.

BIZET—"Carmen"

STRATHPEY. A lively Scotch dance in 4/4 time in which the famous "Scotch snap" is prominent. This is produced by a sixteenth note followed by a dotted eighth note. It is slower than a REEL (q. v.).

Talshohram

TARANTELLA (Ta-ran-tel'-la). (Fr., TARANTELE.) This lively dance derives its name from a town in Italy called Taranto, in the old province of Apulia. The dance has great interest because of the peculiar tradition connecting it with the Tarantula, a huge spider of Southern Italy, the bite of which was supposed to produce insanity or even to be fatal. What it really did produce was a kind of hysteria, but since many experiments have proven that the bite of the Tarantula, while poisonous, is not fatal, nor does it cause insanity. However, there were literally thousands of victims of hysteria resulting from fear of the result of the Tarantula bite. Somehow, the dance with the accompanying music was given the credit of being the only cure for the Tarantula bite. The performers continued until they dropped with fatigue. The dance is in 6/8 time and the speed increases gradually. It is an invigorating rhythm, which is indicated in the notation below.

Presto HELLER

WALZ (Ger., WALZER; Fr., VALSE; It., VALZER.) A popular dance in 3/4 time thought by some to have originated in Sualbia. There are three kinds of waltz: the slow German waltz (see LÄNDER), the ordinary Vienna or *Trois Temps*, and the Quick-step or *Deux Temps*. It is too familiar to need an example.

OPTIMISM and faith are the things which bring success. When Wagner was fifty years old, he was caricatured in the press, gazed at as a madman wherever he went, and made a target for the criticism of his time. He knew too unintelligent to grasp the importance of his ideas. Very often he has been without the bare necessities of life, and almost always in debt. Yet it was precisely at this time he chose to write a comic opera. He composed his *Die Meistersinger* during his residence in Paris in the winter of 1861-62, and no work ever written has been more genuinely expressive of optimism and human kindness.

It is curious how the great composers of opera have turned their attention to religion at the end of their careers. The last work of Wagner, *Paradise Lost*, "musical drama" is a work of decidedly religious import. Mozart's last and perhaps his greatest work was a *Requiem*. Verdi also completed his career as a composer by writing a *Requiem* for marvelous beauty. Even the frivolous Rossini turned his attention to religious matters, and his last work was the *Sabat Mater*.



(Scene from "Tannhäuser"—Abram Production)

WAGNER'S OPERA "TANNHÄUSER"

GREAT SINGERS IN "TANNHÄUSER"



BERTHA MORENA

The principal roles in *Tannhäuser* are Landgrave (Bass), Tannhäuser (Tenor), Wolfram von Eschenbach (Bartone), Walkner von der Vogelweide (Tenor), Biterolf (Tenor), Heinrich der Schreiber (Tenor), Reinmar von Zweter (Bass), Elizabeth (Soprano), Venus (Soprano), *A Young Shepherd* (Soprano). At the first performance the principal singers were: Tichatschek (Tannhäuser), Mine Schroeder-Dervient (Venus), Johanna Wagner, Richard Wagner's niece (Elizabeth), Lehmann, Termini, Eames, Gadski, Morena, Alvary, Burgestaller and others have become especially famous in this opera. The newest Elizabeth to achieve European fame is Gertrude Renneyson, an American singer, who sang for years with the Savage Grand Opera Company, but who is now one of the leading Wagner sopranos of Germany. Tannhäuser was one of the first Wagner operas to present the difficulties for the singer which later made his work a bugbear. Mine Schroeder-Dervient, one of the greatest singers of her time, said after one of her performances: "You are a man of genius, but you write such eccentric stuff that it is hardly possible to sing it." The best known musical numbers from *Tannhäuser* are, of course, the *March*, the *Pilgrims' Chorus* and the *Evening Star* (Liszt arrangement). There is also a good arrangement of Elizabeth's Prayer for organ.

THE STORY OF "TANNHÄUSER"

ACT I. Near Eisenach, Germany, beginning of the thirteenth century. *Tannhäuser*, a minstrel knight, is a surfeited victim of *Venus*. His appeal to the Virgin Mary causes the Venus Grotto to sink into the earth. *Tannhäuser* finds himself in a woodland valley. He hears the chant of pilgrims and realizes his guilt. He meets the Landgrave, Wolfram and Walkner. Wolfram tells *Tannhäuser* that the Landgrave's daughter, Elizabeth, has been longing for *Tannhäuser's* return to the Castle of the Wartburg.

ACT II. Hall of Song in the Castle. Elizabeth enters singing a greeting to the hall. *Tannhäuser*, enters and kneels at her feet. The knights and ladies enter to participate in the tournament of song. The subject is "The Power of Love"—the prize being the hand of Elizabeth. Wolfram sings of love as the most sacred human feeling. Walkner praises love as the fount of virtue. *Tannhäuser* praises the love of Venus. The knights draw their swords to kill him. Elizabeth prays that he may be spared. Pope's pardon. The chant of the pilgrims is heard. *Tannhäuser* staggers from the hall.

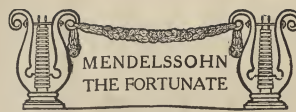
ACT III. The Valley of Act I (Autumn). Elizabeth, kneeling before a rustic shrine, prays for the return of her lover. The returning pilgrims file slowly by. *Tannhäuser* is not among them. The shock prostrates her. *Tannhäuser* returns from Rome broken-hearted. The Pope has refused to grant him pardon until the papal staff shall break up in blossoms. *Tannhäuser* longs to return to Venus. A vision of the goddess appears, but Wolfram begs him not to yield. Venus disappears and a funeral train bearing the body of Elizabeth enters. *Tannhäuser* dies while the pilgrims enter with Pope's staff, which has put forth blossoms—the symbol of heavenly pardon.

HOW WAGNER WROTE "TANNHÄUSER"

A complete novel might easily have been written about Richard Wagner and the conditions which prevailed during the time when he was fighting to secure recognition by means of *Tannhäuser*. Wagner had been preparing an opera to be called *The Saracens*, but the popular version of the *Tannhäuser* story fell in his hands by chance. It was through this that he was also led to study the stories of *Lohengrin* and *Parsifal*. *Tannhäuser* was completed in April, 1844. It was first produced in Dresden, October 19, 1845, but, like so many first productions, the opera was not a great success. This next production still more difficult. Wagner was obliged to make many revisions. Sixteen years later, in Paris, Wagner was still fighting, and the three performances given there at a cost of \$40,000, provided by the French government, proved a disturbance at the Grand Opera that cannot be described as a riot. Wagner, seated at the conductor's desk, thought at first that the demonstration was for the arrival of the emperor, but soon convinced him otherwise. Gradually, through the assistance of Spohr, von Bülow, Liszt and others, the opera became so popular that it is now, according to our own Souss, the most popular of all classical numbers.



WAGNER



By CAROLINE V. KEEB.

(Last month the writer of this article presented some interesting aspects of Mendelssohn's ideal "Training." This month the fortunate home influences which surrounded the composer's life are described in a way which indicates how prophetic was the selection of his surname, Felix, meaning "happy" or "prosperous."—Eugene's Note.)

FOLLOWING are some lines written by Felix for his mother's birthday, when he was still smattering under the treatment which his youthful opera, *Don Quixote*, received at the hands of the Berlin critics:

"Is the composition grave,
They are just to sleep;
Is the composition gay,
Why, it can't be deep!"

"Is the composition long,
More? they do cry;
Is the composition short,
Have another try!"

"Is the composition light,
What a dunce! you hear;
Is it full of mystery,
Growing dark?" they fear.

"Let him write how'er he may,
Praise will be his;
Therefore, say I, let him write
As he will and can!"

SOME DELIGHTFUL HOME MUSICALS.

These Sunday Musicals were supplemented by the so-called "Friday Evenings" of the old master, Zelter, at which time a small select number of members from the Singakademie Chorus came together for the study of difficult choral works. In a letter to Goethe, Zelter writes: "Our chief worship is dedicated to Johann Sebastian Bach, the purest, the noblest, the most daring of all musicians. Here it was that Felix first made the acquaintance of the glorious music to the *St. Matthew's Passion*. His most ardent wish was to possess the complete score, and his wish his grandmother attempted to carry into fulfillment. It was not without difficulty, however, that the crabbed old Zelter was persuaded to give his permission for a copy to be made, which was finished just in time to form the *pièce de résistance* which Mendelssohn found upon his "Christmas Table" in 1823. It must be remembered that this highly treasured Christmas present was intended for a boy of fourteen!"

When Mendelssohn was about to reach the age of fifteen his old master, Zelter, determined to celebrate the day by proclaiming the artistic majority of his beloved pupil. Proposing a toast to the birthday child, old Zelter took the lad by the hand, and in the language of the Master Goethe said: "My dear son, from to-day you are no longer an apprentice, but a journeyman; I advance you to the dignity of a journeyman (Zelter) in the name of Haydn, and in the name of Mozart, and in the name of the old master, Johann Sebastian Bach!"

THE GREATEST MASTER-PIECE OF YOUTH.

In 1826, when quite eighteen years old, Mendelssohn gave to the musical world the overture to *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, a work which was to crown his young brow with the laurels of immortality. Wilhelm Hensel was perhaps right when he found in this tone-poem an echo of the happy summer days, filled to the brim with music and poetry, which had been spent in the beautiful garden adjoining the Mendelssohn home. In the overture Mendelssohn's artistic personality found ideal expression; it is a work full of delicate fancy, overflowing richness of invention, go'den humor and brilliant instrumental coloring. Rubinstein calls it "a musical revelation." Even Liszt, who had created the new form of the "Concert Overture," for in the beginning he had no thought of writing the entire incidental music to the Shakespeare play. It was not until seventeen years later that, at the suggestion of the King of Prussia, he was persuaded to write a sequel to his youthful work.

It is not difficult to imagine the enthusiasm with which the work was received in the Mendelssohn household. After the first performance, the Sunday visitors a foretaste of its beauties in a piano arrangement for four hands, it was given in its full orchestral scoring, the only listener to qualify his praise being the conservative old Zelter. Later Mendelssohn used to relate laughingly that Zelter

gave him the advice (in regard to the well-known opening measures of the overture), "Never use two flutes alone, because they never accord!"

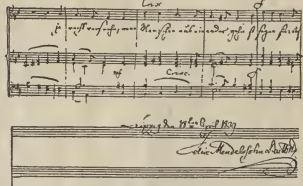
A GREAT REVIVAL.

Quite as significant as the creation of the overture was another great musical deed, which marked an epoch not alone in Mendelssohn's own life and artistic development, but which created a new chapter of musical history. This was the resurrection of the noble music which Bach had written to *The Passion of St. Matthew*.

After its first hearing in Leipzig, in April, 1729, this mighty work vanished completely from the memory of the musical world, until, by a lucky coincidence, one of the few copies fell into the hands of the young Mendelssohn.

As a comparatively small part of the Bach compositions were ever printed during the lifetime of the composer; the rest were perpetuated by means of isolated copies, but the Bach art, in its universal greatness, seemed to have been buried in the grave of the old Thomas cantor in Leipzig. Zelter was one of the most zealous collectors of the Bach manuscripts, but it was the polyphonic construction and intricacy of counterpoint which interested him, rather than the profound depths of the music.

Mendelssohn luckily found a warm coadjutor in his friend, Edward Devrient, the actor, and the latter has given an amusing account in his memoirs of the visit he and Mendelssohn paid to the "old bear," Zelter, in order to gain his permission. After attempting in vain to dissuade the two enthusiasts by fatherly exhortation, Zelter grew violent and thundered out his indignation in the words: "And I am asked to listen in patience to such rubbish.



FRAGMENT OF MENDELSSOHN'S MANUSCRIPT WRITTEN AT THE AGE OF TWENTY.

How many other people, far wiser and much older, have hesitated about undertaking such a task, and now comes a pair of little brats who look upon it as child's play! The sensitive Felix was about to turn away, offended and discouraged, but the diplomatic Devrient pleaded his cause so skillfully (his chief card being that, after all, it would be two of Zelter's own pupils who were doing the highest and greatest thing he had taught them) that Zelter promised neutrality.

A GREAT SUCCESS.

Once outside the door, Felix threw his arm about his friend's shoulders with the appreciative words: "You are a devilishly clever fellow and a genuine Arch-Jesuit!" Another visit had to be paid to secure the cooperation of the singers from the opera. This was a more formal affair, and it was Mendelssohn's idea that they should dress themselves exactly alike. This "Bach uniform"—as he called it—consisted of blue coats, white waistcoats, black trousers, black cravats and yellow chamois gloves. At last, after many preliminaries and much practice, the noble work received a second "first performance," in March, 1829, and aroused the most unprecedented enthusiasm.

Devrient himself delivered the words of Jesus; in fact, his share of the work throughout was so conspicuous that Mendelssohn, referring for the first time to his own Hebrew origin, said: "To think that it should be an actor and not who give thanks to the people the greatest of all Christian works!"

Mendelssohn had made the music so thoroughly his own that the rehearsals, from beginning to end, were directed without a score.

More than a thousand applications for tickets could not be granted, so that a second performance was given on Bach's birthday, March 21. So great was the interest in the *Passion Music* that even the marvelous Paganini, who was concertizing in Berlin at the time, was quite relegated to the background. Still a third performance was demanded, but, leaving this in the hands of the old Zelter, who by this time had become a thorough convert to the wisdom of the undertaking, Mendelssohn prepared to make his first independent flight into the world, his *Wander-jahre* beginning with a memorable visit to England.

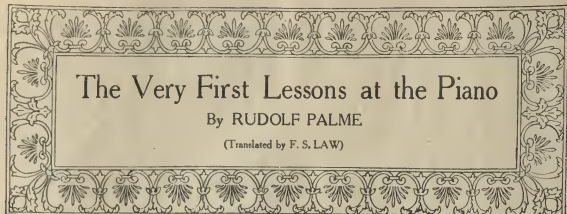
SOME DELICATE (?) CONTEMPORARY CRITICISMS OF WAGNER'S EARLY WORKS.

It is comforting for the young and struggling musician to note how most of the great masters have been obliged to fight adverse criticism. Wagner's early works were received with uproar in most cases. This very uproar was the best possible advertisement for the young composer. After hearing *Tannhäuser* for the first time, Schumann gently intimated, "Were he but as melodious as he is clever, he would be the man of the day." Prosper Mérimée, the critic, and author of the novel *Carmen*, said of *Tannhäuser*: "I could write something as good after hearing my cat walk up and down over the keys of the piano." This is the way in which Berlioz gloated over the first performances of *Tannhäuser*: "What bursts of laughter! The Parisian showed himself yesterday in quite a new light; he laughed at the wretched musical style. He laughed at the tricks of the fantastic orchestration, he laughed at the haughty. At last he comprehends that there is a style in music. As for the horrors, he hissed them splendidly. The second representation was worse than the first. People no longer laughed—they were furious; they hissed persistently, notwithstanding the presence of the emperor and the empress, who were in their box. When leaving the theatre, on the stairs people treat this unfortunate Wagner as a scamp, an impostor, an idiot. The press is unanimous against him! Alas, poor mistaken Berlioz—poor Paris! These seem insignificant in comparison with a criticism apropos Wagner's works. Here are some of the ingenious descriptive epithets which crawled from the venomous pen of the reviewer: "Musical slime, sea-sick harmonies, rancid music, murderous harmonies, delirium tremens in musical hell music, the pedantic ranting in tone, god music, tonal blightings, and epidemic of harmonic insanity." Where reposes the penny-afiner who invented these amusing slanders? What ever may be said of the compositions of the young composer, he may remember that Wagner was probably the most abused and incidentally the best advertised composer of all times. The only time the composer need worry is when his compositions go unnoted.

MUSIC THAT WAS MUSIC.

Some people have an idea that the great public art is discriminative in its nature. The greater mistake could possibly be made. The public is usually the first to identify really great music when it has an opportunity to hear it. In fact, some writers consider the test of really great music or the really great performer to be continued public approval.

C. L. Cullen, in the *Sunday Magazine*, relates an incident which occurred in a far Western town. A train-load of passengers from the East were stalled in this town on the night which had been selected for a local ball to be given by the workmen. The affair of the town was disabled and one of the passengers volunteered to play. The dancing proceeded in good earnest, when another violinist entered the hall bearing his violin under his arm. He offered to assist with the music. The moment his bow touched the violin the dancing stopped and the rest of the evening was turned into a concert. The dancers had no idea who the player was. All they knew was, that it was music which was so different from anything that they had ever heard, that even the fascination of dancing was at once lost. At the end of the impromptu concert a collection was taken and a five-dollar gold piece was presented to the violinist. The player who gave the piece was the same as the one who gave the piece and kept the money as a pocket-piece for many years thereafter.



The Very First Lessons on the Piano

By RUDOLF PALME

(Translated by F. S. LAW)

One of the most encouraging signs of the times, music...

LESSON II. FIRST PART.

DIVISION OF THE INSTRUMENT INTO DISTINCTIVE OCTAVES.

In our previous lesson the pupil has been given a clear understanding of the position of the piano keys...

As there are but seven alphabetical names, the pupil must be shown that these names may apply to...

In the next five notes, the invention of musical notation was developed by letters.

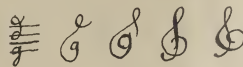
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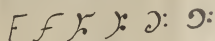
The F or Bass Clef.



The Clefs are evolutions of Latin letters. The letter G was converted into the Treble Clef sign...



The letter F was converted into the Bass Clef sign in the following manner:



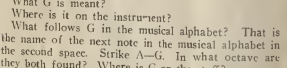
THE TREBLE CLEF.

It will be noticed that the character denoting the treble clef encircles the second line of the staff...

RIGHT HAND. Play c third finger. Play c thumb. Play f fourth finger.



LEFT HAND. Play c fifth finger. Play c fourth finger. Play f fourth finger. Play g fifth finger.



EAR TRAINING EXERCISES. The teacher strikes a number of notes high, low and medium...

STUDYING THE STAFF, THE TREBLE CLEF AND THE ONE-LINE NOTES.

It is the custom of most teachers at this time to introduce the study of the treble clef just a very little after the study of the bass clef is taken up.

The various notes and the piano-keys which they struck produce them, are represented on paper by characters called notes.

THE CLEF. To determine the names of the notes as well as their positions we have recourse to the clefs.

finger to repeat the stroke as before, and similarly with counts three and four.

The learner is inclined to let the tones follow in rapid succession, partly because he imagines that he is really playing when he hears them recur frequently.

Aside from the stroke of the single finger, the task of holding of four keys at the same time is more or less difficult for the pupil to accomplish.

ORDER OF PRACTICE.

- 1. EXERCISE FOR TOUCH I. Eight times with each finger, and counting aloud, one, two, three, four.

THE MAN BEHIND THE ARTIST.

By D. A. CLIFFINGER.

To what extent is physique responsible in the making of an artist? Very little, if the verdict of history be reliable.

In matters involving taste genius is usually reliable, but in selecting an earthly habitation its judgment is oftentimes questionable.

We recognize degrees in artistic expression because some have a higher consciousness of truth than others.

WE SPEAK OF THE FINGERS OF THE PIANIST AS IF NOTHING ELSE WERE INVOLVED, OR AS IF THEY WERE DIFFERENT FROM THE FINGERS OF OTHER PEOPLE.

Every physical manifestation has a mental cause. The painter, the pianist, the singer must express themselves through a physical medium.

THE PUPIL FIRST IMMEDIATELY COMMENDS THE EXERCISE FOR TOUCH GIVEN IN HIS LESSON, SO THAT ALL ERRORS MAY BE INSTANTLY CORRECTED.

EXERCISES FOR THE TOUCH I (CONTINUED).

RISEING AND FALLING OF FINGERS AT COMMAND.

NEXT THE EXERCISE FOR THE TOUCH (I) IS carried on in a different manner. The order of the fingers...

HOW I OVERCAME STAGE FRIGHT.

By A. OWEN PENNEY.

There is an old fairy story which narrates the experience of a youth who did not know fear.

It is scarcely worth while to discuss the causes of this malady. One writer says it is lack of preparation.

So then, it is not the causes of stage fright that concern you or me so much, but the question, 'How shall we overcome this soul-killer?'

a few notes the mental image would fade away and I would find myself again becoming tense and nervous.

Of course, during all this time I was going on with my public work; but with a thousand critical persons gazing into one's face it required a tremendous effort of the imagination to form the mental picture of a calm, self-possessed demeanor.

I sang for the love of it, revelled in it with joyful disregard of the old haunting doubts that used to lurk in every corner of my brain.

ENCORES AT PUPILS' RECITALS.

By ROBERT MORRIS TREADWELL.

There is enough of the Oliver Twist in most of us to "want more of anything that pleases us."

At pupils' recitals applause often becomes dangerous for the teacher, since the pupil with the most friends present is often applauded more than the one who is most deserving.

The different numbers performed at a recital are likely to be greeted in the following manner: Number one has finished his solo, and is mighty glad to have it "over with."

Number two has played one before at a recital, and feels confident of living through her performance.

Number three is a little boy who looks ten years of age and plays like a boy of fourteen.

It is strange how much improvisation has come out of fashion in recent years. There are, of course, many who will sit at the piano and "ramble" over the keyboard.

ROSSINI THE HUMORIST

Epigrams and Wit of the Most Whimsical of the Italian Composers

By J. CUTHBERT HADDEN

EDITOR'S NOTE—The following article from the pen of a representative English writer appeared first in the London Musical Opinion.

Rossini was the prince of humorists among composers. The good stories told of him would fill a small volume and I wonder that no writer has thought of bringing them together under one cover. First let us describe Rossini as he appeared to some of his friends. Madame Ardti, the wife of the well-known conductor, whom I first encountered at Covent Garden Promenade Concerts many years ago, says that he was "the queerest looking old thing" that she ever saw; "such a quaint ungainly figure; such sharp piercing eyes; such a vivacious quick manner with it all." Usually he was clad in a very shabby loose shooting jacket and wore a conspicuously ill-fitting and ugly colored wig. The wig was a great feature. Signor Ardti had once rendered him a slight service and, calling on him one afternoon, Rossini was profuse in his thanks. He was anxious to prove his gratitude in a tangible way and glancing round the room he caught sight of his wigs. "I am sorry, Ardti," he said, "that I cannot give you an actual proof of my gratitude; but, if you would like to have one of my wigs, you can take any color that you fancy would suit you." Ardti never wore a wig—that was the joke!

Rossini was an epicure and several of the stories connected with his name bear on the pleasures of the table. He had a fastidious palate and declared that he could cook rice and macaroni better than anyone he knew. "Maestro," said someone to him, "do you remember that famous dinner given you in Milan, when they served a gigantic macaroni pie? Well, I was seated next you." "Indeed!" replied Rossini; "I remember the macaroni perfectly, but I fail to recognize you." On another occasion at a dinner in Paris at which he was observed to remain silent and absorbed, a banker who was on anything but friendly terms with him, passed savouries to the lady on his right, saying: "I have already eaten as many of these as Samson slew Philistines." "Yes, and with the same weapon," retorted Rossini.

ROSSINI THE EPICURE

Of course, Rossini was not always in what he called epicurean form. Adolphe Crémieux gave a sumptuous breakfast partly in honor of Meyerbeer, to which he invited Rossini. The latter occupied a place of honor next to the wife of his host, but refused one after another all the dainties offered to him. Madame noticed this with surprise and regret and presently asked him whether he was unwell. "I rarely eat breakfast," he explained, "nor can I depart from that rule to-day; although, should anything go wrong with to-morrow night's representation of Les Huguenots, Meyerbeer will believe to the day of his death that my refusal to partake of this feast brought him bad luck. The position that I now occupy at your table reminds me of an odd experience that befell me some years ago in a provincial town of Italy." He then told the story. It was connected with a performance of "The Barber of Seville," given in Rossini's special honor in a local theatre. While the overture was in full swing, Rossini noticed a big trumpeter in the orchestra, manifestly blown with remarkable force and continuity by a member of the band. But not a note in the least like the trumpet could Rossini hear. So, at the close of the performance, he interviewed the conductor and asked him about the noiseless trumpeter. His reply was: "Maestro, in this town there is not a living soul who can play the trumpet, therefore I specially engaged an artist to hold one up to his lips, binding him by an oath not to blow into it; for it looks well to have a trumpeter in an orchestra." Ros-

si, who was as fat as Falstaff, used to tell this story when admiring ladies asked him to breakfast and he ate nothing. "I am like the trumpeter," he would say: "I look well at your table."

Rossini was often given to characteristic remarks and criticisms concerning other composers. He spoke his mind freely about everybody and never cared whether he gave offence or not. Still, what he said was mostly taken as a good joke, especially by his intimates. He seldom went to the opera but he could not resist the temptation of hearing one of Wagner's works. It was Tannhäuser. Afterwards, when



ROSSINI IN THE COSTUME HE WORE WHEN CONDUCTING.

asked to give his opinion of the opera, he said: "It is too important and too elaborate a work to be judged after a single hearing, but I shall not give it a second." Somebody once handed him a score of one of Wagner's latest music dramas and presently remarked that he was holding it upside down. "Well," said Rossini, "I have already read it the other way and am trying this as I really can make nothing of it."

I have mentioned Meyerbeer. It was one of Rossini's pleasantries to say that he and this composer could never agree, because Meyerbeer liked sauer kraut better than macaroni. He imagined that Meyerbeer disliked him. Meeting Meyerbeer one day, Rossini replied, in answer to an enquiry on the subject, that his days were numbered, as he must soon succumb to an alarming catalogue of maladies which he uttered astonished to the ready ear of his listener and to which at the time. After Meyerbeer's departure, the friend remonstrated with Rossini for his levity every good man's duty to contribute to the peace and comfort of his fellow-men; and you know that nothing would delight Meyerbeer more or afford him early release." As a matter of fact, Meyerbeer died a few days after Meyerbeer's death a young admirer of his called upon Rossini with an enquiry

which he had written in honor of his dead idol. "Well," said Rossini, after hearing the composition played, "if you really want my honest opinion, I think that it would have been better if you had died and Meyerbeer had written the eulogy." Rossini had scant patience with amateur composers. One such once accompanied the manuscript of his latest composition with a Stilton cheese, of which he knew Rossini to be fond. He hoped, of course, to have a letter praising his work. A letter came, but all it said was "Thanks! I like the cheese very much." Prince Poniatowski, the composer of the popular "Yeoman's Wedding Song," had written two operas and wanted very much to have Rossini's opinion as to which of the two he should choose for production in public. Rossini fought shy of the matter for a long time, but Poniatowski's impetuosity at last prevailed. Highly elated, he accompanied Rossini home. Rossini settled himself in his easy chair with his feet on another and placed a huge bandana handkerchief over his eyes. Poniatowski sat down to the piano and worked away lustily for an hour. When, almost exhausted and bathed in perspiration, he was about to begin on the second opera, Rossini awoke from a doze into which he had fallen and touched him lightly on the shoulder so as to arrest his progress. "Now, my good friend, I can advise you," he said sleepily; "have the other opera performed." A kindred joke was tried on Liszt, who had just played one of his so-called "symphonic poems" to Rossini. "I prefer the other," said Rossini enigmatically. Liszt naturally asked which "other." "The Chaos in Haydn's 'Creation,'" was the withering reply.

ROSSINI'S WIT.

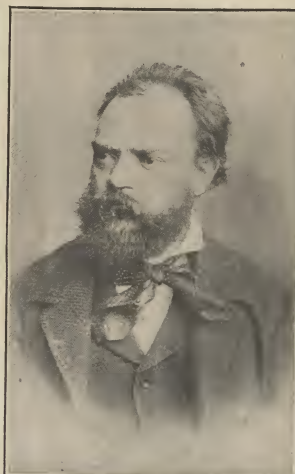
Rossini's witticisms indeed bubbled forth at all times and under all circumstances. On one occasion a gentleman called upon him to enlist his aid in procuring for him an engagement at the opera. He was a drummer and had taken the precaution to bring his instrument. Rossini said he would hear him "play," and it was agreed that he should show off in the overture to "Semiramide." Now, the very first bar of the overture contains a *tremolo* for the drum; and when this had been performed the player remarked, "Now I have a rest of seventy-eight bars—these, of course, I will skip." This was too good a chance to be lost. "Oh, no," said the composer; "by all means count the seventy-eight bars; I particularly want to hear those." Rossini's willingness extended even to his birthday. Having been born on February 29th, in leap year, he had of course a birthday only once in four years, and when he was seventy-two he facetiously invited his friends to celebrate his eighteenth birthday! The late Sir Arthur Sullivan made his acquaintance in Paris. One morning, when Sullivan called to see him, he found him tramping over a small piece of music. "What is that?" asked Sullivan. "It's my dog's birthday," he replied very seriously, "and I write a little piece for him every year." All his life he had a dread of the number thirteen, as well as of Fridays. He never would invite more than twelve to dinner, and once when he had fourteen he made sure of an "understudy" who would, at a moment's notice, have been ready to this was a double superstition—he died on Friday, November 13.

Of miscellaneous anecdotes there are quite a number. In opera Rossini was once rehearsing one of his horns in a small theatre in Italy he noticed that the horn in such an unholy way?" he demanded. "It is I!" said a tremulous voice. "Ah, it is you, is it? Well, go right home." It was his own father! Like Russett he registered a vow when these were instituted and a means of locomotion so little suggestive of connection a good story is told by Mr. Kube, the veteran Brighton musician. About the middle of the day, to the surprise of the promenaders, a one-eling carriage was seen approaching, heavily laden with luggage. This marvellous equipage contained a very stout old gentleman with a remarkably fine coachman's seat was an elderly lady, while the in those days road travelling being already considered an eccentric mode of progression, much speculation was aroused as to the identity of the occupants. The old gentleman proved to be none other than Rossini.—*Musical Opinion.*

The Etude Gallery of Musical Celebrities



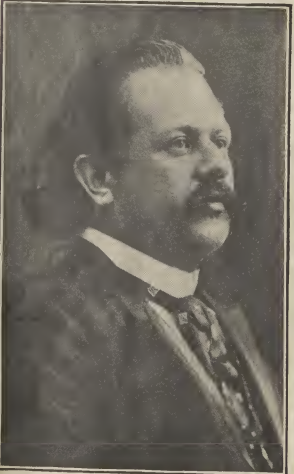
Peter Cornelius



Antonin Dvořák



Charles Marie Widor



Alfred Reisenauer



Heinrich Wilhelm Ernst



Paul Vincent d'Indy

THE STORY OF THE GALLERY

In February, 1939, THE ETUDE commenced the first of this series of portrait-biographies. The idea, which met with immediate and enormous appreciation, was an original project created in THE ETUDE offices and is entirely unlike any previous journalistic invention. The biographies have been written by Mr. A. S. Carbutt, and the plan of cutting out the pictures and mounting them in books has been followed by thousands of delighted students and teachers. One hundred and eighty-six portrait-biographies have now been published. In several cases these have provided readers with information which cannot be obtained in even so voluminous a work as the Grove Dictionary. The first series of seventy-two are obtainable in book form. The Gallery will be continued as long as practical.

CHARLES MARIE WIDOR.

(Vee-dor.)

Widor was born at Lyons, France, February 22, 1845, where his father was organist at the church of St. François. His success here and as an organ recitalist won him the position of organist at St. Sulpice, Paris, in 1869, and he quickly took a leading place among Parisian musicians. He succeeded César Franck as professor of the organ at the Paris Conservatory, and in 1896 took the place of Dubois as professor of composition there. For many years he acted as critic to a paper called *L'Estafette*, writing under the pen-names of "Aulétés" and "Théon." As a composer he has written a great deal of music of all kinds and ranks as one of the foremost composers for the organ in recent times. The two collections of "Symphonies" for the organ have attained wide popularity among concert organists, as these works show great mastery of the resources of the modern organ. In addition to the organ music, however, he has written a number of orchestral pieces, including two symphonies and three concertos for piano and orchestra, and a number of songs, piano pieces, etc., besides being a faithful disciple of César Franck, entering his organ class at the Conservatoire in 1873. In 1875 he became a chorist-master under Colonne, and in order to gain a knowledge of orchestration, played as second trumpet in the orchestra. The same year his overture, *Il Colombine*, was given a hearing, and established his reputation as a composer. He became chorist-master for Lamoureux, and had charge of the chorus at the first Paris performance of *Lohengrin*. With Franck and others he founded the Société Nationale de Musique. He was one of the founders of the Schola Cantorum in 1896, and is still its director and professor of composition. In 1905 d'Indy first visited America and conducted at the Boston Symphony concerts. He has composed several symphonies and symphonic poems, the best known of the latter being *Waldesruhe*, *Itar* and *Le Paradis enchanté*. In addition are several operas, songs, piano pieces and much chamber music and a set of variations for the saxophone and orchestra. He has conducted to current literature, his study of the life of Franck being especially noticeable. d'Indy has never attempted to pander to popular taste in any of his work, but is charged with "dryness" in consequence. Nevertheless, his supreme mastery of the resources of modern music fully justify his highest esteem in which he is held.

(The Etude Gallery)

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ANTONIN DVORÁK.

(Dvor-shahk.)

Dvorák was born at Mühlhausen, Bohemia, September 8, 1841, and died in Prague, May 1, 1904. His father, an innkeeper, destined him to be a butcher, but a music called him into other paths. He studied with his schoolmaster and others. When sixteen he went to Prague and studied organ under Pilsa, gaining his way as best he could by playing the violin in cafés, etc. He got into the orchestra of the National Theatre and in 1873 became organist at St. Adalbert's. A patriotic cantata was produced at this time, and the spontaneous national character of Dvorák's music ensured its success. A government pension was provided from Vienna, and both Liszt and Brahms did much to help him. His *Slovácké Tance* next attracted wide attention, and other larger works began to obtain a hearing. England welcomed him, and he wrote two or three cantatas, notably *The Spire's Bride* for British festivals. From 1892 to 1895 he was head of the National Conservatory in New York, and at this time produced the *New World* symphony. His works included several operas, symphonies, choral and chamber music, songs and piano pieces, etc., such as his *Hunorek*, *Valse Gracieuse* and the *Songs My Mother Taught Me*. He was appointed head of the Prague Conservatory after leaving New York. Dvorák was much influenced in composition by the national Bohemian folk-music, greatly loving rich harmonies, unexpected rhythms and brilliant orchestral effects.

(The Etude Gallery)

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CARL AUGUST PETER CORNELIUS.

(Kor-nay-lee-oo.)

CORNELIUS was born at Jlayence, Germany, December 24, 1824, where he died, October 26, 1874. His failure as an actor caused him to turn his attention to music, and though his training was incomplete, he soon acquired a wide general knowledge. After the death of his father, in 1844, he went to Dehm, of Berlin (1845), and studied music thoroughly until 1850. In 1852 he became attached to Liszt's studio at Weimar, and aided in championing the cause of Wagner by his contributions to the *Neue Zeitschrift für Musik*. In order to elude Wagner's ideas more fully, Cornelius wrote a comic opera, *The Barber of Bagdad*, which was produced in Weimar, 1858. The failure of this work was the cause of Liszt leaving Weimar. Cornelius also left and went to Vienna, where he met Wagner, with whom he soon became closely allied. When Wagner went to Munich under the patronage of Ludwig II, Cornelius went with him, and was appointed reader to the king. After von Bülow took charge of the conservatory, he being transformed to the *Königliche Musikschule*, Cornelius was appointed professor of harmony and rhetoric. His opera *Die Welt* was produced at Weimar, 1861, and he was working on another, *Gulduh*, at the time of his death. It was afterwards orchestrated by Hoffbauer and Lassen, and produced at Weimar and Strassburg, 1892. All the works of Cornelius were strongly influenced by Wagner, (The Etude Gallery)

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LEFT HAND MUSIC.

BY HARRIETTE BROWER.

ROBERT SCHUMANN had little sympathy with music written for one hand alone; he deemed it sterile and unwhorly, saying that if a child saw a pianist playing with one hand only he might innocently say why the player could not use two hands.

Though music written for one hand alone may so impress a child, as Schumann suggests, it is possible to compose very creditably for a single hand. The reason that the left hand is thus chosen is obvious. While there is generally plenty of work for the right hand in most piano compositions, there is often not so much for the left hand to do. Composers have concluded, therefore, that the left hand must have some extra practice. Or is it that they wish to create something unique, unusual or extraordinary to see what they can do with one hand, whether the work of a single hand can be made to sound like the playing of two hands. The violinist does all of his wonderful work with only four fingers of the left hand, and the pianist, using five, can also perform some agile feats.

Left hand compositions have their value and are at times extremely useful and necessary. In the strenuous pursuit after digital perfection, players sometimes disable the right hand and wrist with injudicious and excessive practice. It is then that the left hand piece comes in for its share of attention. If one cannot present one's self to the exacting "Professor," owing to a lame right hand, one need not lose the lesson on that account; hence the necessity of the left hand piece.

The question may be asked: Do we need the left hand piece as a technical study? I answer, We do not, if correct and adequate technical training is being pursued. By adequate I mean the equal training of hands, wrists and arms, and the same exercises, the left hand doing exactly the same things as the right. Both hands should be able to play trills, scales, chords and octaves with equal facility and power. Such training is logical and reasonable, and appeals to the common sense of every student. With such a well-balanced technical equipment, the left hand piece is in no way a technical necessity.

SOME SUITABLE PIECES.

If the player has had no such foundational training, there may be a wide difference between the facility of the two hands. He may have played much salon music, with usually requires far less activity in the left than in the right hand. In this event, the mastery of a few left-hand pieces will be of real benefit. There is quite a list of compositions of this character, and it will prove an interesting study to examine some of the best of them.

And, first of all, there are the studies which may be used as stepping stones to the pieces. Czerny has left us some of these, made in his fluent manner, and there are the *Four Short Studies*, Op. 24, by Bernhard Wolff, and the *Easy Studies*, by Bied, Op. 153; also the *Four Melodic Studies*, by A. D. Turner. Isidor Philipp, the Parisian pianist and teacher, has recently published a set of left hand studies, which are a valuable addition to the modern literature on this subject. Of single studies we have one by Lynes, Op. 21, No. 2, and the *Melodic Etude*, by Mehl, which is but a page in length. For young players there are three little pieces by P. Schnecker, and an *Impromptu*, by B.S. No. 4, by Garth. Hollander's six *Intermezzi* will be found very interesting. Some of them need considerable technique to play with sufficient velocity. They consist of a pretty *Etude* in arpeggio figures, an *Absolutely*, a *Valse Melodie*, *Perpetual Motion*, and a *Humorous Song*. Most of these are but two pages in length, though the *Perpetual Motion* is longer and more ambitious.

Arthur Foote has made several contributions to the list of left hand music with his *Little Etude*, Op. 6, No. 4, and his set of three pieces, Op. 37, containing the *Prelude*, *Polka* and *Romance*. Among the pieces composed by Count Geza Zieby, the one-armed pianist, may be mentioned the *Allegretto Grazioso*, a two pages in length, and the brilliant *Valse d'Adieu*. The *Solfeggiato* of Emanuel Bach has been arranged for the left hand alone and is a useful study in this form, although it is advisable to master it first with two hands.

THE ETUDE

SOME LARGER WORKS.

Of the larger works for left hand solo the player will find the Rheinberger Suite, Op. 113, of sterling excellence. This composer can always be depended on to write safe and healthy music, and this Suite is one of the best things we have for this special purpose. Three numbers from the Suite, a *Capriccio*, *Menuet* and *Fugue*. They will be found most useful to study and at the same time are interesting and melodious as music. The length of the Suite of three, and is an animated and vigorous piece of writing, containing interesting themes in single notes and chords. There is no laziness nor sluggishness here; all must be delivered with the greatest exactness, phrasing and strong contrast of light and shade. There is a bracing air of candor and honesty about it, which acts beneficially on the left hand technique. The piece affects one like a brisk walk on a fresh morning in Autumn. The bold chords are crowded, the brilliant sunshine makes sharp lines and patches of shadow here and there; all is gay activity. The *Alternative* section, in F major, set in the middle, is smooth and suave, and forms a good contrast to the first part of the composition, which returns after a page of this calmer mood.

The *Mazurke*, which follows, is more familiar; it is studied separately and is more frequently played. It starts piano-sissimo, with a dainty little theme; there are a few measures of strong contrasted chords scattered through the piece, but for the most part the color coloring is kept in the lighter and more delicate tints. The *Finale*, which closes the suite, is a short, vigorous bit of writing, well constructed. The listener would not imagine one hand only was being used. Theodore Leschetzky has tried his hand at this style of writing by turning the sextette from *Lucia*, into a digital exercise for the left hand. It contains more than the usual quantity of broken chords— which must occur in music of this class—and there is considerable arpeggio and some octave work in it.

SOME MODERN COMPOSITIONS.

Of the more recent left hand numbers several of value may be cited. A *Salon Etude*, Op. 10, No. 5, by E. Pirkert, is an interesting little piece two pages in length, but not unlike the capable use of warmth and variety of shading and expression, is the basis of its structure. A big climax is worked up on the second page, which subsides into a quiet and peaceful close. The piece is well edited, with very exact directions for its performance.

Scriabine, the Russian composer, has made several additions to the left hand literature. One is a *Prelude*, Op. 9, No. 1, an unpretentious but useful little piece. The second number in this opus is more ambitious. It is a *Nocturne* and has a distinctive Russian atmosphere. Starting with a theme in single notes, it soon works into chords and octaves, with several effective cadenzas. It often appears on recital programmes, and opens the eyes of the groundlings as to what can be done with the left hand.

If one is seeking some healthy velocity exercise for the left hand, Weber's *Perpetual Motion* round, arranged for left hand solo by Brahms, will furnish it in plenty. Max Reger, too, has written a group of four "special pieces" for left hand. No. 1, a *Scherzo*, is but a page in length; No. 2, *Hunoreque*, contains two pages written in thirds; the third number is a *Prelude* somewhat longer; and the last number, a *Prelude and Fugue*, is written on one staff, is four pages in length and much more difficult than the other three.

Other pieces for the left hand which may prove useful and be found in the following short list: Spindler—Three Romances, Op. 350—*Ländler*, *Trauer March* and *Serenade*.

Spindler—Three Romances, Op. 156.
H. Liehner—Three Romances, Op. 267.
Ferd. Hummel—Five pieces, Op. 43, *Etude*, *Valse*, *Spiz*, *Grazing*, *March*, *Capriccio*.
C. Ham, Op. 41, in *der Dämmerung*.
Wilhelm Fink, Op. 20, No. 1, *Romanza*.
Th. Dohter, Op. 30, No. 7, *Etude* in *D flat*.
W. Taubert, Op. 40, No. 2, *Zanzetta*.

Two perfected performer always gives the impression that he plays without pains.—E. Nasmann.

FOUR EPISODES IN A STUDIO.

BY T. L. RICKABY.

I. THE pupil was unpromising. He was a young man—a farmer—of about nineteen or twenty, and was his third or fourth lesson. Lines and spaces, clefs and notes were a puzzling proposition, and it was much easier for him to sit on a plow or planter than a piano stool. Harnessing a horse was much more in keeping with his inclinations and artistic habits than playing exercises.

The teacher was conscientious, and tried hard to make the way as easy as possible, but this, even with the pupil's ambition and good will, had not resulted very successfully. Such was the pupil's face lightened up of a decidedly more agreeable character, and the teacher, thinking that some light had broken in upon the pupil's consciousness, and that after all his work was not to be lost, waited for the gratifying expression that he felt was coming.

"Say, pufessor," said the young man, "I killed the biggest bullfrog this morning you ever saw!"
The teacher is still alive, and is doing as well as could be expected.

II.

A severely determined looking woman was called at the studio, stating that she wanted to have her daughter begin the study of music, but was undecided which teacher to select.

"How many lines and spaces do you teach?" was her astonishing question.

On being told five of the one and four of the other she paralyzed the poor teacher by saying that as Miss X—"taught five lines and six spaces she would patronize her, because naturally she wanted as much as possible for her money!"

III.

The teacher was once asked by a lady to suggest some classical music for her daughter, who had studied music at some "conservatory."

The mother said that her daughter did not want to take lessons, because she did not need them, but merely wished to know of some music to practice, but that she was classical, very classical indeed. The teacher suggested that Beethoven might come up to the standard of "classicality" required.

"Beethoven!" exclaimed the lady in a surprised and rather injured tone. "Why, Maude passed Beethoven more than a year ago!"
"Indeed!" the teacher rejoined, "then what you need now is the music of the composers whose names I will write down for you." The lady looked at the slip of paper given her and departed evidently quite satisfied. The teacher had given the following names:

SOKALKE, KARBONOFF, BALKEHIE, YOFFEROFF, TCHAIKOWSKI, KERESTCHENKOFF, and RIMSKY-KORSAKOFF.

IV.

A man from the rural districts called at the studio, bringing his daughter, a girl that had ten years of age. He began by saying that she had gotten beyond the resources of the teachers of his own neighborhood, and that he wanted to have her come here to town for further development. He further volunteered the information that she could play anything she ever heard and was altogether quite a musical phenomenon. The teacher was interested and in the course asked the little lady to play. She complied readily enough, and of what do you suppose her performance consisted? Beginning with the Key of C, she played tonic, subdominant, dominant and other chords, and then, with every variation of rhythm that the musician had ever heard of, or since. After twenty minutes of this the father asked the teacher what he thought of it. The teacher had ever heard"—and the teacher told the truth.

The development of a taste for what is good in music is a matter which should be carefully in life. Goethe, the great German poet and philosopher, recommended that "Taste is to be educated by contemplation, not of the tolerably good, but of the truly excellent. I therefore show you only the best work, and when you and when you and when you will have a standard for the work which you will know how to value without overrating them."

PAUL VINCENT D'INDY.

(Dan-die.)

VINCENT D'INDY was born in Paris, March 27, 1851. He studied for a while with Diémer and Lavignac, but eventually became a faithful disciple of César Franck, entering his organ class at the Conservatoire in 1873. In 1875 he became a chorist-master under Colonne, and in order to gain a knowledge of orchestration, played as second trumpet in the orchestra. The same year his overture, *Il Colombine*, was given a hearing, and established his reputation as a composer. He became chorist-master for Lamoureux, and had charge of the chorus at the first Paris performance of *Lohengrin*. With Franck and others he founded the Société Nationale de Musique. He was one of the founders of the Schola Cantorum in 1896, and is still its director and professor of composition. In 1905 d'Indy first visited America and conducted at the Boston Symphony concerts. He has composed several symphonies and symphonic poems, the best known of the latter being *Waldesruhe*, *Itar* and *Le Paradis enchanté*. In addition are several operas, songs, piano pieces and much chamber music and a set of variations for the saxophone and orchestra. He has conducted to current literature, his study of the life of Franck being especially noticeable. d'Indy has never attempted to pander to popular taste in any of his work, but is charged with "dryness" in consequence. Nevertheless, his supreme mastery of the resources of modern music fully justify his highest esteem in which he is held.

(The Etude Gallery)

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HEINRICH WILHELM ERNST.

(Ain-ree.)

ERNST was born at Brünn, Moravia, May 6, 1814, and died at Vienna, October 14, 1865. He studied at the Vienna Conservatory under Seyfried (composition) and Böhm, and later with Mayseder (violin). He first went on tour at the age of sixteen, at a time when Paganini was touring Germany. Ernst was much fascinated by the wizard-virtuoso, and followed him from town to town to get better acquainted with his art. In 1832 Ernst went to Paris and studied for six years, also appearing in public. From 1838 to 1844 he traveled all over Europe with brilliant success, especially in London, where eventually he settled. As a composer he wrote many salon pieces of a very attractive kind, in which he displayed remarkable grasp of the possibilities of his instrument. The *Concerto in F sharp minor* however, is a work composed offers many opportunities to the expert violinist. Ernst was a man of warm, intuitive disposition, and played with great brilliance and fire, though he possessed a beautiful singing tone which was very popular. He was a musician of solid attainments, and had his great success would probably have made many more valuable additions to violin music than those he has left.

(The Etude Gallery)

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ALFRED REISENAUER.

(Ry'-sen-ow-er.)

REISENAUER was born at Königsberg, November 1, 1863, and died at Königsberg, October 31, 1907. He first studied the piano with his mother, who was an exceptionally gifted musician. Later he went to Köhler at the advice of Franz Liszt, who was much impressed by his ability. Subsequently he became a pupil of Liszt, with whom he made his debut in 1881. For a time he left the concert stage to study law in Leipzig, but in 1886 he re-appeared with brilliant success. Four years later he became professor of the pianoforte at Leipzig Conservatory. Reisenauer visited the United States for the first time in 1904. He was a great wanderer. It may be said that he was something of a musical pioneer, for he was one of the first great pianists to give recitals in such out-of-the-way places as China, Siberia and central Asia. He had many interesting stories to relate of his Oriental potentates, to whom the visit of a virtuoso was a decided novelty. As a pianist he possessed a great faculty for capturing sympathetically into the ideas of the composer whose music he was interpreting. He never sought to astonish his audiences with the brilliance of his technique, but aimed rather to express the meaning of the music. He was at his best, however, when playing the works of Liszt and Schumann.

(The Etude Gallery)

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Educational Notes on Etude Music

By P. W. OREM

ARIETTE—E. SCHÜTT

In THE ETUDE for July, 1910, appeared a *Petite Scene de Ballet* by this celebrated Russian composer. He has recently composed two additional numbers of similar length and degree of difficulty to form a set of three pieces. One of these pieces, the *Ariette*, we take pleasure in presenting in this issue. An *aria* is an "air" or melody, literally translated, but the term is usually applied to a vocal solo in threefold form with instrumental accompaniment. An *arlette* is a little *aria*. Either term may be applied to an instrumental piece of lyric character, just as we frequently apply the title "song without words." As may be expected from Edward Schütt, his new piece, *Ariette*, is a pianist's gem. The melody is piquant and taking and the harmonic treatment is original yet refined. Note the key contrast and the striking modulatory effects gained by comparatively simple means. This piece should be played in rather free time and treated in the manner of a vocal composition, the melody brought out but the harmonic background well sustained. It is not at all difficult technically but requires a finished interpretation.

MOMENT MUSICAL—M. MOSZKOWSKI

This is the fourth of a series of Moments Musicaux, Op. 84, the first number of which appeared in THE ETUDE of May, 1910. His pieces all have a rare artistic charm, bespeaking the work of the mature master. No. 4 will make a splendid recital number for an advanced player. It will require rare finish and attention to detail. Note the delicate syncopated accompaniment and the various inner voices, each of melodic and harmonic significance.

HUNTING SONG—F. L. EYER

This is a rollicking and characteristic number by a successful American writer and teacher. Hunting pieces of various kinds seem to have appealed to composers of all schools and periods. The familiar "horn-passages," upon which most of them are founded, afford a pleasing and popular vehicle for thematic treatment and varied harmonization. Mr. Eyer's *Hunting Song* is a very cleverly constructed specimen by a contemporary composer. It should be played in a joyous and boisterous manner, in keeping with the character of the piece, but it must not be taken too rapidly lest the passage work be blurred. It will make a successful recital number for a fourth-grade pupil.

SERENADE GIOCCOSA—J. L. BROWNE

This is a very good and well-constructed example of the "serenade" type of piece. The themes are distinct and appealing and the characteristic accompaniment is neatly handled. It should be played in graceful song-like style, in free time, and without hurrying.

DULCINEA—T. LIEURANCE

This is a very clever and taking Spanish dance in characteristic rhythm by a young American composer, a portrait and sketch of whom will be found in another column. Play this piece with fire and dash and with sturdy accentuation. It will make a good third-grade recital number.

CAREZZA—LUIS JORDA

Several pieces by this celebrated Mexican composer have appeared in our music pages and have elicited favorable comment. We now present a short and rather easy number by Mr. Jorda. It is an airy and graceful dance movement of fanciful character with two well-contrasted themes. The first theme has a tinkling bell-like effect while the second is broad cantilena in the style of a cello or baritone melody. Give this piece plenty of color, in the orchestral manner. A good third-grade pupil should do well with it.

JUST IN TIME—N. L. CALAMARA

This is a lively tarantella movement. The passages are all comfortably under the hands but they will require nimble fingers in order to develop the requisite speed and distinct enunciation. Pieces of this type afford excellent practice and invariably sound well.

when worked up to time. The term *tarantella* originally applied to the familiar Neapolitan folk-dance, is now used in connection with almost any rapid 6/8 movement.

MILITARY ESCORT—CHAS LINDSAY

This is a very useful march movement either for teaching, for recital use, or for actual marching purposes. Although easy to play, well within the range of any good second-grade pupil, it has an effect more brilliant and stirring than that of many larger works. The trumpet passage in the *Trio* is particularly effective. This march should be played in the regulation military time, 120 steps to the minute, counting two in a measure.

SWEET DREAMS OF THREE—E. S. PHELPS

This is a melodious drawing-room piece, with three well-defined themes, by a contemporary American composer. It will prove an accessible number for summer study or recreation. It should be played tenderly and expressively.

MARCH OF THE FAIRIES—C. D. ROSE

This is a pleasant little characteristic piece by an American composer of promise. It will prove useful for early third-grade or advanced second-grade study and recreation. Play this piece lightly, but with the regular martial swing.

IN CLOUD LAND—C. KLING

A good easy waltz in the German style, to be played in slow, steady tempo. The themes are all melodious and tasteful, demanding an expressive, finished style. This number might be used for dancing.

NEW WEDDING WALTZ—B. LANDMANN

This is a new and revised version of an old, popular favorite. As an easy teaching piece its usefulness will be greatly increased in its present garb. It still holds its own as a recital number.

THE FOUR-HAND NUMBERS.

Two duets will be found in this issue, both by modern writers, original four-hand pieces.

Calvin's *Spring Duet* is a graceful dance movement of the modern gavotte type. It bids fair to become as popular as the same composer's *Chasse aux Gaisetés*, which appeared in THE ETUDE some time ago. In *Spring Duets* interesting parts for both players will be found.

Gilii's *Historical Pageant* is an easy but sonorous march movement of the classic type, in the style of some of the marches of Handel, Mozart and Gluck, dignified and stately. In this piece, in playing the heavy chords, care must be taken that the four hands of the players fall exactly together at each attack.

FESTIVAL PROCESSIONAL (Pipe Organ)—H. HACKETT

This is a good solid march movement which will serve as an effective postlude. It should also make a good opening number for a recital. The registration combinations are called for, nearly the full organ is to be employed throughout. In playing marches of this type organists should not fall into the habit of playing too legato. In order to give the proper accentual effects the heavy chords should be slightly detached.

EVENING STAR (Violin and Piano)—R. WAGNER

Wagner's *Tannhäuser* will be found in another department of this issue, treated at length. One of the most popular melodies from this music drama is the song of Wolfram, *To the Evening Star*. This number has been arranged for all sorts of vocal and instrumental combinations but it makes a decidedly effective violin number, not difficult to play but fitting the instrument nicely and affording opportunity for the production of the singing tone and cultivating the expressive style of delivery.

THE VOCAL NUMBERS.

Mr. J. E. Roberts' "Come Uno Me" is a tender and appealing setting of a favorite Scriptural text. It will make an excellent church solo for medium voice.

Mr. Field's "Smiles and Frowns" is a naive and pleasing setting of some very clever and happy verses in rendering songs of this character the performer must be an elocutionist as well as a singer in order that not a word of the text may be lost.



THURLOW LIEURANCE.

Among those composers who have become known through their contribution to the musical section of THE ETUDE, none have won a greater popularity than Mr. Lieurance. He was born at Oskaloosa, Iowa, 1881, and moved with his father to Western Kansas some years later. His musical ability soon made itself apparent, and at an early age he was able to perform with some considerable ability. His first song was composed when he was eleven years old. Before he was of age he became bandmaster of the 22d Kansas Regiment, and served through the Spanish-American war. After the war he went to the College of Music in Cincinnati, and also studied with many of the best teachers in the West. He was with the Castle Square Grand Opera Company in St. Louis during 1900 and 1901, and has had wide experience in many branches of musical endeavor. Mr. Lieurance has since returned to Kansas, and is devoting himself largely to composition. He has a remarkable gift of melody, and generally manages to invest his work with warm harmonic coloring. Among the best known of his compositions may be mentioned his songs, *Felix*, *A Garden Coronation* and *A Prayer*. The piano pieces include *Sambona*, *From an Old Love Letter*, *Tender Musings*, *Valise Improvisu*, and many others equally charming.

TAKE A REAL INTEREST IN YOUR PUPILS.

By EDNA E. DE LEON.

TEACHERS expect their pupils to take an enthusiastic interest in music, but very few teachers take the same enthusiastic interest in their pupils. By studying the pupil's character you learn his likes and dislikes. Cater to these intelligently and half of your interest is won. Let your pupil see that you are interested in him and in his welfare entirely apart from his musical work. Find out what kind of books he likes, what kind of plays he prefers, what his sports are. By doing this you will find that you not only make your own work far more entertaining and profitable, but at the same time you will make the work of your pupils vastly more fascinating, and they will surely progress more rapidly.

STUDENTS should never be discouraged by what seems like failure. Often failure is success in disguise. When Puccini's *Madama Butterfly* was first produced it was greeted with hisses and cat calls by the excited Italians who did not favor the Japanese setting combined with modern costumes of U. S. Naval officers. Later the opera made one of the most triumphant successes of modern times.

JUST IN TIME

TARANTELLA

NICOLO S. CALAMARA

Allegro vivace M. M. ♩ = 152

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ARIETTE

EDOUARD SCHÜTT

Poco moto cantabile M.M. ♩ = 60
con dolce espressione

espressivo

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MILITARY ESCORT MARCH

CHAS. LINDSAY

Tempo di Marcia M.M. ♩ = 120

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Trumpet Solo

TRIO

THE ETUDE

SPRING BREEZES

LES CARESSES DU PRINTEMPS

INTRO.
Moderato M.M. ♩ = 108

Secondo

A. CALVINI, Op. 10

The left page of the musical score for 'Spring Breezes' features a piano introduction in 3/4 time. It consists of two staves: a right-hand staff with a treble clef and a left-hand staff with a bass clef. The music is marked 'Moderato M.M. ♩ = 108'. The score includes various musical notations such as dynamics (p, f, p poco marcato), articulation (accents), and fingering numbers. A 'TRIO' section begins with a key signature change to one flat and a tempo change to 'poco marcato'. The piece concludes with a 'Fine' marking and a 'D.S.' (Da Segno) instruction.

THE ETUDE

SPRING BREEZES

LES CARESSES DU PRINTEMPS

INTRO.
Moderato M.M. ♩ = 108

Primo

A. CALVINI, Op. 10

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DULCINEA

SPANISH DANCE

THURLOW LIEURANCE

Allegretto M.M. $\text{♩} = 72$

CODA

IN CLOUD LAND

WALTZ

CARL KLING

Tempo di Valse M.M. $\text{♩} = 54$

Semplice

THE ETUDE NEW WEDDING WALTZ

B. LANDMANN

Tempo di Valse M.M. $\text{♩} = 63$

THE ETUDE CAREZZA

AIR DE BALLET

LUIS JORDA

Allegretto M.M. $\text{♩} = 72$

FESTAL PROCESSIONAL MARCH

Registration: III Sw. full, comp. to II
 I Ch. soft 8' & 4'
 Ped. 16' & 8'
 Gt. to Ped.

HENRY HACKETT, Op. 30

Maestoso M. M. ♩ = 96

MANUAL

PEDAL

MANUAL: II *f*

PEDAL: *resc.*, *ff*, *rall.*, *a tempo*, *molto rall.*, *Fine of March*

TRIO

III Soft 8' & 4'

Soft 16' & 8'

1st time only

Fine of Trio
2d time only

II *f* *rall.*

II Soft 8'

March D.C.

rall.

D. C. Trio

"O THOU SUBLIME, SWEET EVENING STAR!" from "TANNHAUSER"

Edited by F. E. HAHN

Andante mosso M. M. ♩ = 46

dolce espressivo

R. WAGNER

VIOLIN

Andante mosso M. M. ♩ = 46

p Sul D.

PIANO

p, *pp*, *mf*, *pp*

f Sul G Sul D *poco piu mosso*

p *dim.* *poco rit.*

pp *ppp* *poco ritard.* *poco ritard. poco cres.*

a tempo *tento dim. pp* *dolce*

p *dim.* *rit.* *pp*

dim. *rit.* *pp*

SMILES AND FROWNS

J. MATTHIAS FIELD

"A NON"

Allegretto

1. If I knew the box where the
2. If I knew a box which was

smiles are kept, No mat-ter how large the key, Or strong the bolt, I would try so hard-²I would
large e-nough To hold all the frowns I meet, I would like to gath-er them, ev-ry one, From

o-pen, I know, for me. Then o-ver the land and the sea, broad-cast, I'd scat-ter the smiles to
nur-se-ry, school, and street. Then fold-ing and hold-ing I'd pack them in, And turn-ing the mon-ster

play, That the chil-dren's fa-ces might hold them fast For man-y and man-y a
key, I'd hire a gi-ant to drop the box To the depths of the deep, deep

day, That the chil-dren's fa-ces might hold them fast For man-y and man-y a
sea, I'd hire a gi-ant to drop the box To the depths of the deep, deep

rall.

rall.

1 *a tempo* *rall.*
 day. If I knew the box where the smiles were kept, I'd scat-ter them all to play.

2 *a tempo* *rall.*
 sea. If I'd the key where the smiles are kept, I'd scat-ter them all to play.

8

To Mr. Ed. T. Mc Combs, Beaver, Pa.

COME UNTO ME

J. E. ROBERTS

Andante lento *mp con espress.*
molto sostenuto Come un-to-me, all ye that la-bour and arc

mf heav-y la-den, and I will give you rest, *mp a tempo* Come un-to me, Come un-to me, and

rit. I will give you rest. *Fine*

mp piu mosso
 Take my yoke up - on you and learn of me, Take my yoke up - on you and

mp piu mosso
 learn of me; For I am meek and low - ly, and low - ly of heart, and

cresc. *rit.*
 ye shall find rest un - to your souls, un - to your souls.

a tempo *cresc.* *mf*
 For my yoke is eas - y, and my bur - den is light, For my yoke is eas - y, and my

rit. *D. S.*
 bur - den is light.

To Mary Lodge

HUNTING SONG

FRANK L. EYER

Allegro M.M. 120



THE TEACHERS' ROUND TABLE

Conducted by N. J. COREY



THE NATURE OF TALENT.

"Please define all that the word 'talent' implies in music. I am a girl of eighteen and wish to determine whether or not I have sufficient talent to make music my life work."—V. M.

To define "all" that talent implies would require more than the entire issue of this magazine. In the present instance it probably need include nothing more than the double question, Have I sufficient natural aptitude on one side and business understanding on the other, to make a success of the musical profession?

Granting that all you mention in your rather long letter has been done well, that you can play the list of pieces brilliantly and with finish of technic and interpretation, I should say that you are well endowed from a musical standpoint to enter the profession. The fact that you have positive pitch, and can play well by ear, indicates that you have natural aptitude for music. The most advanced compositions you mention in your repertoire are the Bach Fugues and Chopin Etudes. As to whether you should have done more than this during the years from twelve to eighteen it would be impossible to say without knowing how many hours a day you practiced, and the nature of the advantages for study that you had, and how faithfully and with what amount of concentrated attention you applied yourself. Certainly, others have done more in the same length of time, but in spite of that you have also done well. So far as to be judged from your letter, I would say that you can enter the profession without hesitation.

So far as the business side of the profession is concerned, you will have to work out your salvation. It will be well for you to be giving constant consideration to this during your student years, however. This is an important part of the art life, and I almost wonder that it has not been made a part of the study of those who plan to enter the profession. The conduct of one's business is of the utmost importance, and yet the majority of teachers enter life without having given it an advance consideration. So far as I know, there has been only one systematic statement of the problems that confront the business life of music teachers, a book that will be invaluable for music students to make their own before entering upon their careers. It is entitled, "Business Manual for Music Teachers," by George C. Bender.

HARMONY, SCALES AND NOTATION.

"1. How can I make keyboard harmony more interesting?
2. How can I make students who dislike scales understand their necessity?
3. Some of my pupils insist on calling the names of the notes do, re, etc., as they learn them at school. How can I remedy this?"—D. K.

1. I can hardly tell you how to make keyboard harmony "more interesting," as I do not know how you are presenting it now. If you are simply teaching it as an accessory to piano study, as I infer is the case from your letter, I would say that you would make it interesting by presenting the various steps one at a time. Each step should be dwelt upon and practiced for weeks. Teachers discourage their students in this kind of work by advancing from one thing to another with too great rapidity. Teachers find it hard to realize how exceedingly abstruse the subject of harmony is to the majority of young pupils. Therefore, make their tasks very elementary, and let them master each one before progressing to another.

2. Try and make them understand two things: First, that the development of the hand mechanism is an absolute necessity, and that no one has ever succeeded in accomplishing this except by repetitions of certain formulae that must be carried on year in and year out. Try and make them realize that there can be no attainment without work. You will find that in order for this to make any impression on their minds there will be no end to your talking to them. Second, make them understand that all music is simply a re-arrangement of certain formulae. Putting them together in certain ways forms new musical ideas, just as ideas are expressed by different arrangements of words. You would be surprised to learn how few words are used in the ordinary conduct of life. The person that masters certain given formulae will be quickly able to learn new musical compositions. In the classical repertoire scales

predominate; in modern music, arpeggios. The music of the classical era is more diatonic in formation, and that of the present time more harmonic. Therefore, make them realize that in the mastery of scales and arpeggios of every sort they are ready to play any and all music.

3. Personally I have never been able to understand the necessity for the use of the words do, re, etc. Their use compels students to learn three separate names for every tone of the scale, which results in a confusion of ideas. The pitch names, A, B, C, etc., and the scale inter-relationship names one, two, three, etc., are all that are necessary. With your pupils, simply insist that they give you the pitch names by declining to know what they mean by do, re, etc.

FINGERS TOO SHORT.

"I have a prospective pupil who is very anxious to study, but who has a deformed left hand. All fingers are too short by at least the length of the first joint. It may be possible for the right hand to play easy parts, but this has not been determined. My idea is to make of her a left hand pianist, provided she can find the material. She is anxious to become a teacher, and I wish to do what is best for her. What would you advise?"—E. A.

The foregoing reminds me of a story Mark Twain tells in one of his books. A visitor was making his way through an army hospital during the Civil War, and noticing one of the patients in convulsions of laughter over a booklet he was looking at, asked him what afforded him so much amusement. "Look," he said, "I have had both of my legs shot off, and the doctor has given me a tract on the 'Sin of Dancing.'"

In answer to your question, I should say that it would be as easy for a man without legs to dance as for a person with a deformed hand to become a pianist. To become a good teacher one must know how to play. There is practically nothing written for right hand alone, although quite a respectable list for left hand. Although my inclination would be to discourage your prospective pupil, yet I should not presume to say what she might not accomplish. Some of the greatest investigators in the field of acoustics of the first half of the 18th century, who first used the word *acoustic* to indicate the science of sound, and who detected tones that cultivated musical ears had not yet discovered, was almost totally deaf during his whole life. Plateau, who made wonderful discoveries in optics, was blind. Hence you have distinguished precedent for attempting something that seems outside the range of possibility.

PIECES WITHOUT OCTAVES.

"I have a talented pupil ten years old for whom I have difficulty in selecting pieces advanced enough without octaves or large chords. She does piano work well, and I would like to know of some bright and attractive pieces as well as sonatas that will be suitable for her. She is very anxious for Mendelssohn's *Spring Song*. Do you think it advisable?"—S. L.

It is often difficult to select suitable music for talented pupils whose hands are small. In many pieces, however, you can omit one of the octave tones temporarily in the case of children whose hands will later grow sufficiently to overcome the difficulty. For example, when octaves are struck in the bass for the first beat in the measure, or oftener, the thumb note may be omitted. Isolated octaves and chords in the right hand may be treated in same manner, that is, omit the thumb note, if they are not too frequent in occurrence. It will be well to omit pieces in which octaves and chords are featured. You can find a number of Mendelssohn's *Songs Without Words* that you can use, the *Spring Song* among them. The following pieces will serve your purpose. Sonatas by Mozart, Cotta Edition ♯ flat major, No. 10, and A minor, No. 16; Haydn, Sonata in G minor, Variations in A, *Quanto più bello*; Beethoven, *Six Variations on an Original Theme*; Beethoven, Variations on *Nel cor più*; Beethoven, Rondo in C; Beethoven, Sonata, Op. 14, No. 2; Beethoven; *Renouveau*, Godard; *Spinning Whistles*, in D; *Arabesque*, Schumann; *Blumenstücke*, Schumann; *André*, Godard; *Sons of the Forest*, Lick; *Morning Serenade*, Henselt; *Shadow Dance*, MacDowell; *The Two Larks*, Leschetizsky.

A FREQUENT TROUBLE.

"I have a pupil who is very hard to deal with. She seems to enjoy her lessons, but will not practice enough to learn them. She has taken about three thirds of the first book of the Standard Course, but cannot make her advance more than a few measures at a time. She is nine years old. Will you advise something that is musical but no more difficult?"—H. B.

This is not an unusual difficulty with children. It is not natural for children to want to do anything that seems like work, in which they do not differ so much from people who have grown up. As a general thing, too much is expected of children. The majority of parents are not themselves educated enough to know that children's faculties are only in a process of development. At first they do not even exist; they are only possibilities. Most children have to be made to perform their tasks or they would never accomplish them. How much would they learn in their school studies if they were not placed under the supervision of teachers who make them learn their lessons? If they could be given a similar supervision in their piano practice they would make far greater progress. But no; they are expected to give their minds to this monotonous routine without any assistance. Every moment of a small child's practice time ought to be watched. It is impossible for them to know whether they are making motions or learning their music correctly. But as this cannot be brought about in any but isolated cases, teachers will have to meet conditions as best they may. Try giving the child you mention some easy little pieces, devoting but little of the practice time to exercises. In this way you may arouse her interest. Let her do most of her finger and scale work at the lesson with you. Try *Musical Picture Book*, and *Musical Poems*, by Octavia Hudson. Also *Standard Compositions*, Grade I, selected by W. S. B. Mathews.

THIRDS AND MINORS.

In answer to questions of "E. B.," I would say that in playing the scale of C in thirds the left hand should begin on C and the right hand on E, a third higher. The piece of the steps and half-steps will be the same for both hands. If you began with the right hand on C and the left on A, a third lower, you would be beginning in the key of A minor, and to carry out the key correctly the order of steps and half-steps would have to conform to the minor key.

In order to determine whether a key is major or minor requires some musicianship if one is to do so quickly. You will need to recognize your chords at a glance. At your elementary stage of progress, however, it will be sufficient if you look at the last chord in the piece, and if it falls a third lower than the given signature would require for major, the key will be minor. If your ear is good you can hardly experience any doubt the moment you begin to play. Note your signature and then examine a few measures of the music, and if the fifth degree of the major scale, in which you may have momentarily assumed the piece to be written, be raised, you will find that it is really the seventh degree of the relative minor, which will be your key. When you are advanced enough to have studied harmony you will note that the tonic and dominant chords will indicate your key.

PRACTICAL POINTS.

"1. What exercises can I give a girl for 'cane' humping' of second and third fingers?
2. Will you please give me notes of three pieces for a pupil who plays such things as Godard's *Witch*, and of three pieces which are Godard's *To Spring*, very creditably?
3. What should the child's studies should follow the *Little Preludes and Exercises*?
4. There are many notes that would be of assistance in interpreting the *Sonatas* by Haydn, Mozart and Beethoven as well as works of Bach?"—M. T.

1. Place a lead pencil under the hand, as far back as possible between the fingers and thumb. Let the thumb hold it in position. Then practice the slow trill with heavy touch. This can be done with advantage on a table. Then practice ordinary "running exercises" on the keys, such as do not make use of the thumb. Practice for five or ten minutes a day for a couple, and you will observe a marked improvement.
2. Godard, *Barcarolle*, Op. 77; Meriel, *Polonaise*, Op. 28; Rheinberger, *La Chasse*, Op. 5; Moszkowski, *Serenade* in D; Reinecke, *The Troubadour*, Op. 266; Jancipers, *Serenade Hongroise*; Bendel, *In the Gounlight*; Henselt, *Morning Serenade*; Bendel, *By Moonlight*.
3. Bach's *Lighter Compositions*, which may be followed by the *Two Part Inventions*, and these in turn by the *Three Part Inventions*.
4. The following books will be of assistance: *How to Understand Music*, Mathews; *Beethoven's Sonatas*,

Etcher; *The Pianoforte Sonata*, Shiedock; *Lecture on Musical Analysis*, by Bennett, who give you much information on all the composers you mention. There is also an Analysis of Bach's *Well-Tempered Clavier* chord, by Riemann.

RATTLING IN PIANOS.

"Is it essential to the preservation of a piano in winter to place a jar of water in the lower part of it? What causes the rattling, and would you advise that an amateur tamper with these?"

If the air in your room is too dry it might be well to let a jar of water evaporate near the heater, but it would not be a good plan to place it inside the piano, as too much dampness would rust the wires. There are many causes for rattling. You would better consult with the tuner who takes care of your instrument. I certainly should not recommend that you allow anyone but an expert to tamper with the action. An "amateur" might cause mischief in five minutes that could not be repaired except at great expense.

STUDIES FOR SMALL HANDS.

"Please suggest interesting studies for pupil in fourth grade of Niedermeyer's Opus 10, which are not large enough to play all the exercises."—M. E.

You will find farther consideration of this difficulty in the answer to the question of "S. L." Have you tried the *Little Preludes* of Bach? They would better be preceded by the "First Study of Bach." In anything you may select you will probably have to make some omissions until the child grows older. The second book of "Early-Lying Selected Studies" will provide you with excellent material. You can also with advantage use Heller Opus 47, 46 and 45, making judicious selections.

BACKWARD IN PLAYING HANDS TOGETHER.

"How can I help a pupil who plays his scale for each hand separately with readiness?—U. N. Spins rapidly learning to play together?"—U. N.

Let him take up exercises, studies and pieces that are so simple that he does not need to study the parts separately, things that he can read sight and play with hand alone, without difficulty. He may feel as if he were being put back, but should be made to realize that it is not being put back to be given music that he can play simply. From this point let him gradually make progress, so that he will never think he ought to be. Unless he can be made willing to work in this way, his case is probably hopeless.

HARMONIC OR MELDIC.

"Is it better to teach the harmonic or the melodic form of the minor scale for piano practice? Must technical manuals, *Harmony and Theory*, for example, print only the melodic form in full, and yet so many teachers argue that the harmonic should be taught first?"—R. C.

The general style of the older classical composers was diatonic, while that of the modern composers is more harmonic in character. The melodic minor of the scale predominates in the works of the older composers, and the harmonic in the modern. Hence a well-informed player must be familiar with both. The melodic scale has been included in technical manuals because the authors have been dominated by the classical composers. From a constructive standpoint the harmonic minor comes first; all others are modifications of it. Hence it is better to learn the original form first. Besides, it is simpler to learn, understand and memorize. After it is thoroughly learned, the melodic minor is comparatively simple matter to add the melodic scale to the practice.

VELOCITY IN FIRST GRADE.

"Please tell me how rapidly the scale should be played by children of the first grade. Should it not be the same?—U. N. The physical development of the child's hand?"—U. N.

Velocity should not be aimed at in the first grade, or you will run the risk of more or less rigidity of the muscles which will seriously interfere with later progress. You are in saying that much depends upon the physical development of the child. Much will also depend upon natural aptitude, a factor that is all-important in musical progress. There is no test speed for rapidity of scale playing in the first grade. Most attention should be given to the formation of flexibility and free muscular conditions.

WHAT IS WRONG WITH THE WAY HARMONY IS TAUGHT?

BY EDWARD BAXTER PERRY.

A Plea for More Practical Application and Less Theory.

EVER since my boyhood days, when I waded through some elementary harmony books, struggling to keep my head above the slough of obscurities, inconsistencies and contradictions which threatened to engulf my intelligence, and strove in vain to find some definite, logical reasons for rules which had more exceptions than examples, and sought to understand names which were never applied twice, the same things, the consciousness has been growing upon me that there was something radically wrong with our system of harmony and our methods of teaching it.

Harmony is the grammar of music—the science that underlies the art—and knowledge of it is indispensable to every good musician; but it should be a practical, usable knowledge—a part of one's everyday working equipment, not merely a theoretical, text-book knowledge of terms and rules.

I have known many graduates of a "two-year" course in harmony at a conservatory who could not find the simplest chords in any given key on the piano in less than fifteen minutes, and could not modulate into a related key successfully to save herself from purgatory, just as I have known college students who could work out problems in geometry, but could not make change for a two-dollar bill correctly.

The important thing for the ordinary piano student is to be able to use knowledge of it as shown on paper, but to have a practical familiarity with the construction and relation of chords as used on the piano—that is, a keyboard command of musical material; and this is what few teachers, and still fewer students, give one.

MATHEMATICAL STUNTS.

Our students are taught to do mathematical "stunts" with a pencil, with figured bass and the like; but ask them to accompany the simplest song correctly, and they are hopelessly lost. They think the chords (if they are able to think them at all) in numbers, and not in keyboard positions or related sounds. They cannot recognize them when heard, or find them readily on the instrument. Most of them are so muddled by the confused, indefinite and constantly-varying terms and names in the different text books that they are never sure of even the simplest chords when they see them.

I do not claim to be a scientific theorist, but I offer the suggestion that our whole harmonic system might be greatly simplified and three-fourths of it thrown out, and terminology stricken out of it to the greatest advantage.

GETTING ACQUAINTED WITH A CHORD.

Take, for a simple example, the common chord of D Minor. At my first introduction to it I was told by my teacher that it was a minor chord, or triad, containing a first and a third degree and founded on the second degree of the C major scale.

The next time I was informed that it was the chord of the sixth degree, or sub-median in the key of A major, or, in other words, the relative minor.

On its next appearance—when I was preparing to shake hands with it as an old acquaintance—I was informed by the same teacher that it was the chord of the median, or third degree in the key of B flat. Later I learned to recognise it nearly always simply as the tonic chord in D minor.

What wonder that the immature mind of the student get hopelessly befogged amid all this useless confusion of terms!

One would not know his best friend under so many aliases and disguises; yet in reality the triad of D minor is never anything else, and should be called by any other name. What should we expect of a primary school class if we called a letter "A" in one lesson and "V" in the next and "C" in the third? Most attention should be given to the formation of flexibility and free muscular conditions.

How much less complex and confusing it would be if we invariably connected the name with the chord, and its distinctive individuality on all occasions till the mind learns to associate them and the name becomes polarized with the idea, or rather the feeling of the peculiar character and color of that chord.

Why not tell the student, for instance, that in every key we find three simple, closely related chords—the tonic, dominant and sub-dominant, each consisting of a major triad composed of a major and a minor third, and each of these has its corresponding minor, composed of a minor and a major third, and that on the seventh, or leading, tone of every scale is built an unique and most convenient chord, called "diminished", consisting of two minor thirds.

THE MAIN ELEMENTS OF A KEY.

There you have in a nutshell, easily grasped by any average mind, the constituent elements of every tonality. Teach the student to find these chords quickly and easily in any given key and to use them in their different positions to accompany simple melodies.

This, of course, by no means covers the whole field of harmonic possibilities. It is well-nigh limitless, and many intricacies and subtleties must come later; but that much knowledge of the elements of harmony would be of far more use to the average player than all he gets in two years of hard study under the present system.

Above all, let us have more practical application and less theory—more work at the piano and less at the desk.

Let us encourage the student to USE the musical resources at his command to express himself and his emotions, rather than to work out problems in notes. Better be able to express joy, sorrow or longing in a few chords on the piano than to write a correct figure on paper.

DEBUSSY ON "SERVILITY TO GREAT MASTERS."

The much-discussed French composer, Claude Debussy, has recently given the Paris *Excelsior* his opinions upon some subjects which may be of interest to ETUDE readers. Among other things he states the necessity for more independence:

"In our time, to my mind, people behave with most annoying servility towards the 'great masters.' I desire the freedom to say that a tiresome page wearies me whoever its author was! But I have no theories, no prejudice. I strive to be a sincere man in my art and my opinions—just that. But I consider that there is something aristocratic in art that must not be compromised. That is why I have small desire for big successes and noisy notoriety.

"Music is a free, a spontaneous art, an open-air art, an art to be measured with the elements—the winds, the sky, the sea! It must not be made confined and scholastic. Of course, ingenious writing, the trade of composing very quaint and interesting, I myself was enthusiastic in that direction once upon a time. But I thought over it a good deal, and conclude that the writing of music would gain by being simplified, by the means of expression being more direct. I do understand, and say that I want to place myself at the head of a school or to be a reformer! I want simply to express as sincerely as I can the sensations and sentiments I feel. I care little for the rest."

"I have been represented in all sorts of attitudes which I have never taken up towards the great masters. I have been reported, as saying things about Wagner, Beethoven and Brahms which I admire Beethoven and Wagner, but I refuse to admire everything they have written just because I am told that they were great masters! Never!

"Let me say once more, I do not independently make out for me. I am just fond of quiet peace, isolation; and anything may be said about my music for which I care. I do not ask to be imitated, or that my music be copied, or that anyone should ever on anyone. I want to be as free as I can do my work as I must, as I can—and that is all I can tell you."

"MARK one more the sacrifice of all sacrifices for thy art!"—Beethoven.

SIMPLIFYING SIGHT READING AT THE PIANOFORTE.

BY THOMAS J. HURRETT, MUS. BAC.

(The writer of this article is an educational specialist connected with the University of Leeds, England.)

WHAT is it to be able to read music at sight, just as we read a book? First, there must be a good knowledge of all the signs which stand for musical sounds and their duration; then, a quick mental grasp of groups of these symbols of time and pitch (harmonic groups), such as phrases and rhythmic ideas, exactly as we grasp whole ideas in reading prose or poetry.

To some extent the student ought to gain the ability to comprehend a composition by carefully looking through it before trying it. If a pupil has had a careful and musicianly training in Ear-Cultivation, and as I said above, thoroughly understands the signs by which music is recorded, the chief part of elementary training in Sight-Reading is on a fair way to be accomplished.

In the early stages of training the blackboard will be found most useful. It is better if the simple pupil asked to sing it (it is taken for granted that piano pupils are also taught a certain amount of sight-singing). Then the melody might be played on the piano for the pupil to test if which the pupil should be asked to write it again on the blackboard. The sounds and their signs are then heard and seen together. This is a most valuable training. It is the lack of this early training which is largely at the root of the bad sight-reading which is so prevalent amongst average pupils.

Many pupils read much better in the treble than in the bass clef. This is due to the fact that the treble clef is grounded in the reading of the treble clef before they were introduced to the bass clef. This wrong method has been and is at the root of much of the evil in sight-reading of music. The difficulty which so many experience in reading the notes in the bass clef is very much lessened or altogether avoided, leaving the pupil in the two clefs simultaneously will prevent the pupil from thinking in the treble clef and then translating into the bass clef.

There is need of a good deal of drilling in the early stages in order to read surely and quickly. To avoid fatigue and monotony, the teacher should work in a variety of ways.

Many pupils have difficulty in reading the added or Leger lines. The Great Staff is mastered in the way I have suggested, then the middle, top and bottom lines form landmarks, sign-posts or starting points.

READING GROUPS.

The grouping of the black keys (two and three alternately) is a help in locating notes. In the playing of scales the position of the hand and of the fingers (if the scales are taught properly) will be of great assistance, as the pupil's ear will be carefully trained. The pupil should be taught to visualise scales. This visualisation should, too, be carried through the playing of chords, figures, sequences, chords, arpeggios, and arpeggios with ornamental notes.

In learning to read chords the pupil must first learn to hear and then to see them. This is the only way to gain the ability to read chord groups with certainty. It is not necessary for a pupil to know harmony in the ordinary acceptance of that term. He should be instructed in terms already used. This will help him to establish the tonality.

These first lessons in harmony need deal with nothing further than the quality of the different groups. With these points carefully arranged, the pupil has obtained a good foundation to build up his sight-reading. Everything depends on the work done in these early stages.

Besides the little groups given for the purpose, duets are a valuable and enjoyable exercise for Sight-Reading. These should be sufficiently easy of comprehension, so that the pupil can, at sight, obtain some grasp of the terms of the exercise. The teacher should as a first process, discuss the time, key, form and style of the composition. These the pupil should recite and play the scale and the simple cadences of the key. Thus before commencing he is sure of his ground—From the *Music Student*.

PERSONALITY THAT PAYS.

BY HANNAH S. WEST.

How is it that some who start out to teach music fail utterly both in obtaining and retaining pupils? We all know of musicians who have spent much time and money in acquiring a musical education and are fine performers on their instruments, yet cannot get together a class of pupils. Some such musicians, having induced pupils to study, soon lose influence, and one after another their pupils wend their ways to other teachers. Is the trouble due to lack of ability to impart instruction or to lack of the proper personality?

A SENSITIVE PLANT THAT FADED.

Listen to a little story of mine and draw your own conclusions in the matter. "Once upon a time" an ambitious young woman studied music, both piano and organ, with the best of teachers at home and abroad. She held a fair position as organist in one of our city churches for many years and was well known in her home town as a fine musician. But, unfortunately, Miss Smith was one of those rare (?) "sensitive plants," and withered in bloom if her feet were the least hit by any remark, however innocently made, which did not entirely meet with her entire approval and views, musically and otherwise. As a consequence, the majority of people, young people especially, avoided her socially.

She was always painfully neat in her personal appearance when making her business calls for the purpose of obtaining pupils, but never did she think it "worth while" to put on an extra dainty and pretty neck "fixing" or wear her "very bestes" hat in order to attract the attention of her pupils. After a stiff and formal greeting to her hostess, she got straight down to the question of music lessons, with never a smile or interested remark as to the general character of the pupil whom she wanted to see. She was never at all pleased in general for the different members of the family when Marjorie had learned to play the piano.

HARSHNESS SPELLS RUIN.

Did she by chance obtain the pupil, she really worked hard and conscientiously to teach the rule she was harsh and stern during the first period, and never did she think of dressing herself attractively for her pupils. "Anything will do to teach in. What's the difference?" she would say. Her pupils would study with her for a few months and then mysteriously go to another teacher. Yet she wondered why she could not obtain pupils and keep them for years, as her friend Miss Wood did.

AN "ORDINARY" SUCCESS.

Now this same little Miss Wood was a musician of somewhat ordinary talent, but not ordinary taste in her music. She had worked hard to receive instruction from a good, thorough teacher in a neighboring city, and to the advantage of hearing all of the best of music within her reach. She had fine understanding of the fundamental rules of music, as well as being able to interpret compositions as they were intended to be understood by the composer. So while not a "brilliant musician," she was not unequipped for teaching. She kept herself amiable and sympathetic with all with whom she came in contact, never insincere, but always tactful. She attracted many to study with her, and was unaffected ways. So her popularity grew. When she made a call where there was a likelihood of obtaining a pupil she dressed as for a social call, always in quiet taste, but always well dressed. She interested herself sincerely in the prospective pupil's qualities of character and love of music, and completely won the heart of the mother in placing before her child and pleasure in the home which the mother could eventually bring. You see, she had "an eye and an view" with her work as a teacher of music.

She also dressed suitably but daintily for her lessons hours.

She was aroused in her pupils, and she would smile at the smoothly brushed locks of hair of the boy pupils and the cleanly-kept finger nails. But how the boys and girls loved their teacher, both for her art and her consideration of them! Consequently, results were unusually good, as the work showed.

THE LITTLE THINGS.

Teachers must be able and well equipped to offer services and tuition in any branch of study, but all the "little things" which may leave undute or hurt the world of encouragement to the backward boy or girl whose fingers refuse to make the sweet sounds as readily as others, the little note of approval to the weary mother, who is perhaps denying herself that her child may study music, will all be quite sincere if the teacher is bright, and money is not the sole object of our teaching.

THE MAJESTY OF MUSIC.

BY HENRY LLOYD.

In the world of music kings and princes have little sway, for the orb and scepter of sovereignty go only to those whose native ability, combined with hard work, legitimately raises them above their contemporaries. One of the first to assert the dignity of music was Franz Liszt, who, on being interrupted during the performance of a piece he was playing by the conversation of the Czar of Russia, stopped his performance. When the Czar, amid the general astonishment of all present, asked the reason for this, Liszt calmly explained that "When majesty speaks all must be silent." The Czar wisely appreciated the ambiguity of this remark, and remained silent while the majesty of music held sway.

It was Victoria, an even more powerful sovereign, frankly admitted her own inferiority when Mendelssohn visited her at her invitation. She and the Prince Consort received the distinguished musician in her own sitting-room, no one but the Prince being present. As she entered she inquired of the attendant for the untidy state the room was in and began to straighten things up. Of course Mendelssohn ran to her assistance. One can imagine how his keen sense of humor must have been disturbed when the Queen desired Mendelssohn to play to her. Afterwards she sang some of his songs to him. She was not altogether pleased with her own performance, and naively admitted to Mendelssohn, "I can do better," ask Lohbache if I cannot; but I am afraid of you."

TCHAIKOVSKI'S EXTRAORDINARY MARRIAGE.

One of the most astonishing manifestations of the idiosyncrasies of genius is to be noted in the marriage of Tchaikowski, the greatest of Russian masters, who remained a bachelor until thirty-two years of age. He continually communicated with his friends the fact that he longed for the companionship of a noble woman. In fact, the confiding circle of his friends being duly disposed of, the Queen desired Mendelssohn to play to her. Afterwards she sang some of his songs to him. She was not altogether pleased with her own performance, and naively admitted to Mendelssohn, "I can do better," ask Lohbache if I cannot; but I am afraid of you."

It is the meantime there arose one of the strangest of all infatuations between Madame von Meck, the widow of a railway engineer, and Tchaikowski. The former was very wealthy and was ten years' Tchaikowski's senior. She insisted upon sending him money and upon offering him every opportunity to give him profitable employment. They exchanged frequent letters for years, but never once conversed together. Surely no more astonishing instance of platonic devotion ever existed.

In 1877, a young woman whom Tchaikowski had known for some time, fell violently in love with him. He told her repeatedly that he did not and could not love her. In fact he never manifested any affection whatever for her. She, however, was so violently in love with him that she wrote repeatedly, threatening suicide if he did not consent to marry her. Finally, as he relates in a letter to a friend, she became convinced that she had really saved the life of the love-crazed daimon. They were married on June 18, 1877, but lived together for but a few weeks. Tchaikowski did his best to provide for the needs of his wife after he had left her.

Department for Organists

EDITED BY NOTED SPECIALISTS
The Department for September will be Edited by MR. RALPH KINDER



CHURCH AND CHOR RELATIONS.

THE SHORTCOMINGS OF THE COMMITTEE.

The organ and vocal mists are forever grinding, grinding, grinding, and their grist is continually being turned into the world, a finished or unfinished lot of young organists and singers. Every year, usually in the spring, every music committee which has, or is supposed to have, at its disposal the filling of an organ or vocal post is overwhelmed with applicants. The contest for disposition of the prize (a money salary) is mostly a farce, the music committee is generally notoriously unfit to select, and in the majority of cases a totally incompetent person is foisted into the gallery, chosen because he or she played or sang some mushy, caramel composition which was "so sweet."

Probably *Batiste's Communion* in G for organ and Coetzee's *Come Unto Me* for voice have captured more votes than any other compositions. Naturally in the necessary and exacting routine and grind of a year's work the organist and singers find their level. The committee acknowledges its mistake, and the church has the same farce to enact the following year, resulting usually in another blunder.

True that the musical standards are gradually rising and that a better grade of music, both from choir and organ, is now heard than was the case a few years ago. Yet present conditions are but enough. Where is the weak point in all this? Is it in the musical fraternity or in the music committees? Generally in both. The church committee is at best a bungling make-shift for the duties imposed upon it. The committee is usually made up of business men, mostly trustees, who find and pride themselves on their sense of power, and engage their musicians as they would their clerks or their grand boys, and treat them with as little consideration and courtesy. Their musical knowledge and appreciation is generally only skin deep and the music that is asked of them and which is expected of the choir and organ is the feeble and sickly imitation of melodic sentiment, with the baldest and simplest harmonic basis, tonic, dominant and subdominant. Their viewpoint is that of the membership roll size and the collection basket—certainly an important item in every church. And a pretty face, but tone is often the deciding factor in the selection. Generally, too, there is a power behind the throne—that of their wives.

THE TACT REQUIRED OF AN ORGANIST.

Non-liturgical churches almost always have music committees, and in few such churches is the position of their organist a happy one. He must satisfy both minister and committee, and, if possible, also his own sense of propriety and conscience. Then he must keep the peace between the members of his choir, unify them and entuse them. It is not surprising that he sometimes fails, and voluntarily or involuntarily resigns.

Liturgical churches have the matter greatly simplified, for the responsibility

of the music is definitely committed to the priest or rector, who is naturally and properly interested in having a musical service. He is the chief shortcoming of singers of grace for his congregation, and the music is an integral part and to some extent a dominating force in any service. The minister may be himself an utterly unmusical man, and may make egregious blunders from the artistic point of view, and occasionally tactical blunders, such as carrying things with too high a hand, or needlessly antagonizing choir or congregation, or both, but the task of the choir-master is much simplified when he has one man to consult and please, and that one the head of the service. The music may be studied deep and intensify the impressions and sentiments given out by the sermon, and make an organ or it may deaden or quite nullify these. If the organist and choir take their cue from the minister and give him their sincere and earnest support, it is always appreciated by the minister. Usually, too, the minister fairly well represents the average musical sentiment and taste of his congregation. In a majority of cases the priest or rector is an educated and reasonable man, and if the organist is educated and reasonable and possesses tact and knowledge of human nature, he can gradually prove to the satisfaction of his minister that the best and in the long run the most satisfactory music is dignified, with strong melodic and varied harmonic basis, and that a reasonable amount of counterpoint adds greatly to its charm and even to its longevity. Ask your minister to explain the perennial popularity of the tune *Old Hundred* (from the Genevan Psalter, 1581), which is the favorite melody of Christendom and sung every Sunday in most Protestant churches. When he gives up the problem, just call to his attention that while the melody is so fine that it has many other chorales, its strength, dignity and attractiveness lie in its varicid harmony.

WHERE THE SINGER IS AT FAULT.

But while it is easy and cheap to abuse the music committees and find fault with them, it is much more frankly acknowledge that the organist and singers are themselves largely to blame for the troubles and frustrations. A singer who cannot sing, or who repeats of one note to five solos suitable for offerings, or who gives his or her as carefully coached piece is not prepared for a year's demands. For a prepared program offering has to be abandoned at the last minute.

Singers, too, must be versatile. Their one stands solos can be easily selected and considered more fitted to their own voices. But the incidental solos of the anthems are at the discretion of the conductor and may be more interesting, state, heroic, triumphant or otherwise; and the singer must be competent for any of these styles and on short notice.

There are many singers who have cultivated or thoughtlessly acquired that absurdity—a tremolo. Often they think that its use adds to the emotional element and consequently the attractiveness of their singing. Possibly one in fifty of

their auditors thinks the same and praises it. The remaining forty-nine note it an abomination. Sopranos or tenors who cannot take their low C (middle C for the former, tenor C for the latter) with a broad tone are handicapped, for lyrics sung often are anthems sometimes require these. Then a common carelessness of singers is in the matter of hymn singing. These are largely left to the congregation, and there are few churches where the congregation sings with spirit or body of tone. So this part of the service is depressing. In the few churches that have hearty congregational singing it will be noticed that the organ plays smartly and the choir all sing smartly and as though they enjoyed it. But by far the chief shortcoming of singers is in the matter of distinct diction. This state of things is deplorable and well-nigh universal. Most professional singers pride themselves on their vowel tones, the opening of the mouth, position of tongue, etc., but as to consonants, and especially tactical blunders, such as being in the back of the choir, or as may be, they are neglected. Now auditors have keener observations than they are often credited with and notice these various shortcomings, and if singers are notified that their services are no longer required often they have themselves also to thank for it.

THE DUTIES OF THE ORGANIST.

Then as to organists the problem is more complicated. It happens not so seldom, that his best efforts are discouraged, perhaps frustrated, by orders from his superiors, the music committee or the minister, or intrigues from some member of his choir, or bad colds of the singers. Still he is held responsible for results. But patience, earnestness and tact in dealing with superiors and inferiors will largely overcome the human factor. Proper relations with the choir are of first importance. He must ever command the respect and esteem of his singers. Haughtiness or over-familiarity are alike fatal to this. As he sits close to the singers and has the work done before him, he is apt to be nonobservant of the bad pronunciation of the words. This will not do. In the matter of anthem selections he should consult the minister, for unity of the service is of first importance. Many anthems are suitable for general use and at almost any season of the year, others are decidedly for only special occasions. It is always best to have a number of anthems of various characters reasonably well rehearsed up and ready to be brought forward on very short notice.

Organist and singers take their positions primarily for the salaries attached to them. The minister, we may assume, has his own, yet it may have its bad effects. If the salary be a very large one, the singers and organist may become contented, unreasonable and petulant. If it be a very small one, they know themselves underpaid, lose interest and perhaps shrink their duties. Often, too, the ambition of singers and players goes no further than the attainment of a salary. This secured, they stop their lessons and therewith their progress, forgetting that no one stands still in music—that if they do not progress forward they will go backward. Musicians sometimes excuse poor selections on the plea that they are more appreciative of their better pieces. This uncompromising attitude the auditors may sometimes be justified in it is likely that their supposedly better pieces are out of place on the occasion; possibly too long, too heavy or too operatic.

It should be remembered that a simple, artless composition, well sung or played, is more truly artistic than a more elaborate which is unsuited to its cir-

cumstances. A man or woman with the artistic instinct is always painting on always giving of his or her best. And who cannot take their low C (middle C for the former, tenor C for the latter) with a broad tone are handicapped, for lyrics sung often are anthems sometimes require these. Then a common carelessness of singers is in the matter of hymn singing. These are largely left to the congregation, and there are few churches where the congregation sings with spirit or body of tone. So this part of the service is depressing. In the few churches that have hearty congregational singing it will be noticed that the organ plays smartly and the choir all sing smartly and as though they enjoyed it. But by far the chief shortcoming of singers is in the matter of distinct diction. This state of things is deplorable and well-nigh universal. Most professional singers pride themselves on their vowel tones, the opening of the mouth, position of tongue, etc., but as to consonants, and especially tactical blunders, such as being in the back of the choir, or as may be, they are neglected. Now auditors have keener observations than they are often credited with and notice these various shortcomings, and if singers are notified that their services are no longer required often they have themselves also to thank for it.

SOME REMINISCENCES OF A GREAT ORGAN PLAYER

A man who was not only unquestionably the most accomplished organ player, but in a general sense one of the most remarkable artists of his day, was the late W. T. Best.

Owing to special circumstances I was in a position to know more than perhaps any other person about the musical acquirements of one who has been hitherto most inadequately treated in musical records.

Best was one of the most conscientious of artists, and demanded far more from himself than the public ever demanded from him. He once remarked to me after a performance of *Elphig* with organ accompaniment, alone: "Getting up those accompaniments was the hardest day's work I ever had in my life!" Now, it is quite certain that he could have accompanied the whole oratorio through to the satisfaction of the audience, and even of the singers, without any "getting up" at all; but that would not have satisfied the mind of Mendelssohn. Mendelssohn's orchestral effects as far as they could be got on the organ. At a performance of *Messiah* with only the organ accompaniment, in order the more direct effect of the orchestra, he deliberately suppressed a great deal of the most typical organ tone, playing the *Pedal* part, for instance, on the strings. As he sits close to the singers and has the work done before him, he is apt to be nonobservant of the bad pronunciation of the words. This will not do. In the matter of anthem selections he should consult the minister, for unity of the service is of first importance. Many anthems are suitable for general use and at almost any season of the year, others are decidedly for only special occasions. It is always best to have a number of anthems of various characters reasonably well rehearsed up and ready to be brought forward on very short notice.

Organist and singers take their positions primarily for the salaries attached to them. The minister, we may assume, has his own, yet it may have its bad effects. If the salary be a very large one, the singers and organist may become contented, unreasonable and petulant. If it be a very small one, they know themselves underpaid, lose interest and perhaps shrink their duties. Often, too, the ambition of singers and players goes no further than the attainment of a salary. This secured, they stop their lessons and therewith their progress, forgetting that no one stands still in music—that if they do not progress forward they will go backward. Musicians sometimes excuse poor selections on the plea that they are more appreciative of their better pieces. This uncompromising attitude the auditors may sometimes be justified in it is likely that their supposedly better pieces are out of place on the occasion; possibly too long, too heavy or too operatic.

It should be remembered that a simple, artless composition, well sung or played, is more truly artistic than a more elaborate which is unsuited to its cir-

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he pulled out the Orchestral Oboe stop and put a small lead weight on the A key, leaving it to sound until the band had finished tuning. It was really the most sensible thing to do. The amusing part of it consisted in the anger of some of the old stagers in the audience, who charged me with the effect. "So-and-so," they said (referring to a local organist), "used to give us some fine chords on the organ."

I cannot vouch for the following, but I saw it in print on what I believe to be good authority. At the interval between the two parts of an oratorio he was told by some one officially connected with the performance that they would like to hear the organ while the audience and chorus reassembled. He considered (and rightly) an insult to him as an artist; he saw no more reason why an eminent organist should be asked to play when an audience were getting into their seats than an eminent pianist, to whom people would certainly not think of making such a request; and his practical rebuke was to cut four small wedges out of a bit of pencil and wedge down the notes of the chord of C and leave it sounding with the Diapason stops drawn; they "wanted to hear the organ," and they should hear it.

Lastly, it must be said that all Best's acquirements on the organ and in musical knowledge were entirely due to his own study and his own genius for the instrument. He had passed through no conservative training; with the exception of (I believe) a short course of lessons in his boyhood, he was no one's pupil but his own. All his execution on the organ, all his exceptional knowledge of organ effect, were the result of his own unremitting practice and his own innate aesthetic perception.—From *The Organ and Its Place in Musical Art*, by H. Heathcote Statham.

For some curious reason, up till quite recently music has been looked upon down as an unworthy profession. "An elegant art and fine amusement, but as an occupation it hath little dignity, having for its object mere entertainment and pleasure." The gentleman who made that remark was a barber and a surgeon by profession, and would have been hardly forgotten but for the fact that he happened to be— the father of Handel!

Those who seek to deter us by harsh criticism very often help us along by hardening our resolution to succeed. In one of his letters Webster says: "My whole life I have been wholly devoted to hostility; it has been my best spur to excellence."

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Edited by ROBERT BRAINE

COMPETITION.

A LADY violin teacher writes: "I have been teaching the violin for over twenty years in a medium sized town in the West. I have made a good income from my teaching, and have had great success in developing a large number of good pupils. Recently there has come to our town a violin teacher who claims to have studied with a leading teacher in Germany. He is a showy public performer, who I unfortunately am too nervous to do myself justice in public. Several of my pupils have left me and gone to him, and he is getting many new ones that would have fallen to me had he not established himself in our town. He gives recitals, in which the most difficult pieces are played by my former pupils, who have studied with me for three pieces. He has never taught them. He never loses an opportunity to speak slightly of me, and talks of my teaching as a joke. He gets the credit for the good playing of pupils whom it has taken years of my hard work to develop. Is this fair or right? I am afraid that he will eventually take all my business. I do not think he is much of a teacher, from what I have heard, but he is certainly giving me dangerous competition. What would you advise me to do under the circumstances?"

"Miss A. B."

Our correspondent will find that there are many heartbreaks in this business of music teaching. The Bible says, "To him that hath shall be given," and this proves remarkably true in the profession of music teaching, since the last teacher always appropriates all that his predecessor has done.

TRAITOR PUPILS.

An artist paints a masterpiece, places his name on corner of it, and the honor and glory of having painted it is his forever. A violin teacher, by years of strenuous exertion, produces a brilliant pupil. Through caprice or change of residence the pupil seeks another teacher, when Prestol at the good work of the first teacher becomes the property of the second. The pupil plays in the recital of the second teacher, who calmly appropriates all that the first teacher has done, just as if an artist should take the almost finished canvas of a brother artist, add a touch here and there, and boldly enter it in the exhibition as his own. As our correspondent says, it is neither fair nor right, but it is one of the things which go with the profession, and must be patiently borne.

Every teacher has experience of this kind. Music pupils are fickle and I regret to say, often ungrateful. The new teacher is the one they recognise and trust, and their friends, and give credit for whatever success they have

in playing. Pupils often go from small to metropolitan cities, and in a few weeks or months, if their playing justifies it, they will be found playing in recitals and concerts, all the credit of their playing going to the new teacher, notwithstanding the fact that the teacher in their home town may have done years of good work to give them a foundation in violin playing. In a large city no one takes the trouble to inquire as to the antecedents of a new pupil, and whatever success he has become an asset of the school or private teacher with whom he is studying at the moment.

AMERICAN TEACHER FORGOTTEN.

Our correspondent must not think that the teachers in the smaller cities are the only sufferers in this respect. Hundreds of pupils study for years with our best American violin teachers, and then go to Europe, sometimes with the idea that they invariably should choose a teacher of international reputation, who is especially well known in America, and on their return they claim themselves as pupils of the great European teacher. If their American teacher is mentioned they either deny him altogether or else speak slightly of him as having taught them some of the elementary principles of violin playing. When asked as to who their teacher has been they invariably mention Herr B, or Monsieur D, or Sign X, without a word of the faithful American teacher who may have furnished almost their entire education. Now this, you will say, is the height of injustice. So it is, but what are you going to do about it? You cannot bring your name on the pupil's forehead, detailing the number of years he studied under you, and giving your own estimate of the state of perfection to which you brought him. The pupil can be infatigably retrained to name as "his teacher" the one whom he considers the greatest of all those under whom he has studied, even should he have had but half a dozen lessons from that one. I know of an instance of a young lady from an Indiana town, who had lessons for five years from a good violin teacher in her home town, and who went to New York to study. After considering three lessons from a teacher of considerable reputation she became ill for three months. In New York hospital home she boldly proclaimed herself as the pupil of the New York teacher, and even spoke slightly of the methods of her former teacher. This is an extreme case, but there are many like it.

This craze to be known as the pupil of a famous teacher, is a mutual one of the same world over. There is a story of Liszt, the great pianist, that when he arrived unexpectedly in a small town in Germany, he found that a "Miss X, a pupil of Liszt," was to give a piano recital that night. As Liszt had never heard of the lady, much less

having given her lessons, he was indignant and summoned her to his hotel for an explanation. The summons was obeyed, and it was a very pretty but shame-faced young woman who stood before him an hour later. Liszt started out to give her a severe lecture, but her grief and repentance were so evident that he was touched. "Play something for me," he said. He found she was not without talent, so the affair ended by his going over her pieces with her, and giving her many valuable suggestions. He dismissed her with the remark that he had saved her from a falsehood, in that she had now had at least "one lesson from Liszt," but coupled with some fatherly advice that she stand on her own merits thereafter.

As to specific advice in our correspondent's case, she probably has less cause for alarm than she thinks, always supposing that she is a really good, thorough player. As she resides in a medium sized city, where most of the musical people know each other, it is probably well known to the musical public that the pupils who have left her received the bulk of their musical education from her. She should lose no opportunity of telling her friends the facts, at the same time avoiding anything like ill-natured remarks about her competitor. If she is a teacher of talent and has done years of good work in her town the public is no doubt well aware of the fact, and after the first rush of pupils to the new teacher things will quiet down. Most of our correspondent's class will not desert and she will get new ones. If the new teacher stays and makes good, she may have to charge somewhat lower prices than she obtains if she remains in it getting all the new business.

THE NEW TEACHER.

There is another factor which is not often thought of in considering competition among teachers, and that is that the exertions of a new violin teacher in a community do much to awaken increased interest in violin playing. Say there are twenty-five pupils in violin playing in a small city; the advent of a new teacher and his exertions to get new pupils will increase the total number to forty, if not to fifty. If the two teachers are really competent and work hard enough to get new pupils the number might increase to seventy-five or a hundred. Getting new pupils is largely a matter of business ability, and if a music teacher puts the funds and intelligence into the quest that a piano dealer does in selling pianos, he can increase his business almost indefinitely. The sale of mail-order firms has been enormous. Mail-order firms spend immense sums in developing their business, issuing huge catalogues, teaching people how to order, and interesting new people all the time. The same thing can be done on a small scale by every competent music teacher who uses the right methods. The coming of a new teacher to a town where there has been only one before will not necessarily mean starvation for both. If the new teacher displays proper diligence in seeking new pupils he will not be long before each city will have as many pupils as the one had before.

Every little while one learns something, but one forgets every minute of the day.—A. Schopenhauer.

VIOLINS AS ANTIQUES.

UNDER the new law governing the admission of old violins into the United States, instruments of this character which are fully authenticated, will before him as works of art, just as paintings, sculptures and certain other works of art are now brought in, but they must not be resold in this country.

Many violinists and connoisseurs will not at once see the significance of this, for to them, it will only mean that they can purchase old instruments cheaper or can import them direct free of duty. But to the observant one the question of the authentication of the instrument will at once appeal. It will be noticed that the instrument to be admitted and free must be one hundred years old, and that it must contain a label which shows when and where it was made, and such label must be proved genuine beyond doubt. This opens up a big field for discussion.

In the first place, old labels are manufactured by the thousands every day, and are such clever imitations that even an expert is sometimes deceived. Furthermore, some genuine old fiddles have had the original labels removed and spurious labels inserted. This does not change the value of the fiddle, nor does it alter the tone, but it does make it difficult to decide as to the maker of the violin and the date of its manufacture. In the next place, many old makers, makers who for one reason or another are no more to be used, have inserted no labels whatever in their violins. How will these be judged? Again, many modern makers can imitate an old violin so perfectly as to deceive the eye and the ear. What will be done in these cases?

Finally, the whole situation resolves itself into a government guarantee of old instruments, and the United States Government says that a violin is a genuine Guarnerius, it immediately places such an instrument in a guaranteed case, and the owner to set a justifiably high value on it.—From the *Violin World*.

STRING OIL.

The great majority of violin players do not use string oil at all, and in the case of those who do, the stringing oil they use is naturally of the poorest quality. To the violinist who is troubled with clammy, sweating hands, however, stringing oil is of great assistance. If properly applied, the moisture which the sweating fingers causes the strings to slightly relax and descend in pitch, so that a violin in tune, having been kept in tune, may even after a stop in it, keep its pitch of a solo to tune. The application of the stringing oil renders the string waterproof, of the hand thus does not affect the pitch. The finger if damp also glides along the string much easier when a small amount of the oil has been applied. One of the best makers of stringing oil says that he uses it on the middle strings used on the strings slightly covered with oil, and the sufferer from damp fingers should keep them in that condition when he uses the violin.

Many prepared string oils are on the market at twenty-five to fifty cents per bottle, and are of such a nature that a year's supply of oil to sweets costs for five or ten cents at any drug store will serve quite as well. Great care should be taken in applying the oil not to use too much of it, and to blow any of the oil to get on the part of the instrument between the bridge and the end of the fingerboard where the bow is applied.

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MR. BRAINE'S personal replies to ETUDE applicants for advice and information

F. K. B.—In the violin solo "Souvenir de Bade" by Leonard, "Bade" is not the name of a man as you suppose, but of a place. The translation would be "Remembrance of Baden." In this solo, Leonard has tried to depict his impressions and memories of the gay life of this celebrated European watering place.

A good violin cleaner which will not injure the varnish is as follows: Linseed oil 7 parts, oil of turpentine, 1 part, water 4 parts. Keep in a tightly corked bottle, and when used, shake vigorously, pour a small amount of the mixture on a piece of cheesecloth, and rub quickly over the violin. Then wipe off, and rub with a fresh piece of cloth. If you are a professional violinist you ought to pay from \$20 to \$30 for a violin bow, but if you are a beginner or do not do so, you may use a bow costing \$4 or \$5 answer 3. With two hours daily practice you should have your bow re-haired at least every six months.

E. S. U.—You wish to state of which of the Amatis your violin is a copy. Andrea Amati, probably born about 1530, was the acknowledged founder of the Cremonese school of violin making, the greatest school the world has ever known. His violins are rare and of exquisite quality. His sons Antonius and Giovanni made many excellent instruments. The greatest of the family was Nicola Amati, son of Hieronymus, who produced many masterpieces, and is also famed as the teacher of Stradivarius, Guarnierus, Rugieri, and other famous makers. There were several other members of the family of lesser note. Amati violins are not common, but are held in high esteem as the violins of Stradivarius and Guarnierus, but notwithstanding they are in high repute among violinists and collectors. There is much difference of opinion among violin teachers in regard to aids to holding the violin. The great violinist Spohr advised the use of the chin rest, but does not seem to have thought anything further in the way of a pad or shoulder-rest necessary. He advised that the left shoulder be moved forward to support the lower part of the violin. The majority of violin teachers recommend the use of a velvet cushion, not attached to the violin, and worn over the coat in an ease of a male performer, and pinned to the dress, or tied under the chin rest in the case of a female. A number book of chin rests are on the open market, and have attained a wide popularity. If the violin can be held firmly and in the proper position by the aid of any of these rests, there should certainly be no objection to their use. The entire matter should be left to the teacher, since pupils are of different build. I have seen many pupils who held the violin in perfect position without the assistance of anything in the shape of a pad, while others would require a large cushion and a very high chin rest.

F. L.—If you are studying to become a concert violinist, you no doubt practice on the violin three or four hours, or even more daily. Your idea of giving a portion of your time to studying the piano is a good one. It might be well for you to devote an hour or an hour and a half to piano study in addition to your violin practice. Every

musician should understand the piano, and you will become a much better violinist from studying it.

M. G.—The correct manner of producing the vibrato was explained in the Violin Department of THE ETUDE in the July, 1910, number. If you are not a subscriber to THE ETUDE you can obtain this number by sending 15 cents in postage stamps to Theo. Presser, 1712 Chestnut St., Philadelphia, Pa., publisher of THE ETUDE. The fact that you are unable to keep up the motion of the hand in the vibrato probably comes from the fact that you grip the neck of the violin too tightly.

H. L.—An audience at an amateur concert would rarely expect classical music from a student's orchestra playing between acts. Light overtures, marches, waltzes, medleys, etc., would probably be more satisfactory.

W. H. W.—Robert Richard, was a French violin maker of some note, who made violins at Paris, from 1740-1760. His violins have been varnished, and are of a flat model and large size. I do not know the violins of Francois Richard, Paris. The latter was probably the son or other relative of Robert Richard.

F. M.—You evidently lead your bow down with too much rosin. A dozen or fifteen strokes over the rosin every time you play should be sufficient. If the rosin which you use touches the string gets too heavily coated, it should be gently removed, taking care not to injure the string in the process.

ELGAR'S NEW CONCERTO

The great death of violin music of the highest class is proved by the great interest which attends the appearance of a new concerto of this importance. Not for years has there been more interest in a new violin composition than that in the performance of the new concerto of Edward Elgar. Elgar, England's foremost living composer, which took place in London recently, the interpreting violinist being Fritz Kreisler. The accompanying orchestra was conducted by his composer himself. The work was received with great enthusiasm by the audience, but the criticism was divided. While admitting that the new concerto is a good work, many of the critics maintain that it contains little inspiration and will hardly rank with the world's great concertos. The concerto is in three movements, opening with an allegro. The middle movement is an andante, and the closing theme, allegro molto. The work is not excessively difficult, barring some difficult double stopping. Following its premiere in London many concert violinists all over the world are arranging to play it.

This desire to "shine" in public is one of the most common forms of excusable vanity, and it is truly singular how many people are anxious and ready to appear in public without having had sufficient training. Following its premiere in London for the audience and for the performer. One is reminded of the story of a young man who took audaciously to master about a dozen pieces. After working excited before a London audience and exciting much popular admiration by virtue of his "brilliant" powers of execution. Upon trying over some scales with Moscheles, however, he was so overcome by mistakes that Clara Wacchales' little daughter, called out, "Mamma, what is the matter? Hasn't the gentleman learned his scales?"

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THE CONDUCTOR'S PARTY.

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SCENE—A large music room with raised platform at one end. The conductor's desk stands in the center at the front of the platform. Chairs are placed to right and left of the conductor's desk, also in the rear. The room is brilliantly illuminated.

THE CONDUCTOR.

(Putting on his gloves and picking up his baton.)

This party is for you, my dear little readers. I know my men, the quality of their voices and the color of their tone. We are coming together to-night for you to see and hear. Ah, there is my chief support, dear Miss First Violin!

MISS FIRST VIOLIN.

(A young lady with fair complexion and rosy cheeks.)

We're all dreadfully late, but the whole string family is on the way. I saw them *she places her violin on the first chair to the left of the conductor's desk.* MADAME VIOLA, MONSIEUR CELLO and SEÑOR CONTRABASS will be here in a moment. I called for the WOODWINDS, but they are all coming in BASSON'S automobile.

(Enter MADAME VIOLA, MONSIEUR CELLO and SEÑOR CONTRABASS.)

SEÑOR CONTRABASS. (A large, cheerful-looking gentleman.) I have rheumatism in every one of my strings to-night. I went swimming yesterday and caught a fearful cold.

MONSIEUR CELLO.

(A dashing, young man in evening dress.) Oh, well, a little thing like that won't affect your voice any! You always sing an octave lower than you are written.

MADAME VIOLA.

(An elderly lady with brilliant eyes. She moves about with agility.) Dear MONSIEUR CELLO, I hope you are singing for us to-night. I'm always thinking of gondolas and moonlight in Venice when I listen to you. Ah! my dear fellow, you are the singing lower of the orchestra.

MISS FIRST VIOLIN.

Oh! Madame, I think your voices blend beautifully. Perhaps you will sing a duet with Monsieur CELLO. Could anything be more lovely than your singing together in the first part of the Andante in Beethoven's First Symphony?

THE CONDUCTOR.

(Looking toward the door.) I do wonder where the WOODWINDS are. Usually they are so prompt. What a cautious family, everyone speaking a different language, and so softly one can scarcely understand.

(Enter MRS. FLUTE, holding little PICCOLO under her hand. They are followed by MISS OWB, a shy girl, and Mr. CLARINET, an eloquent-looking person, and BASSON, the humorist.)

THE CONDUCTOR.

(Extending his hand to Mrs. FLUTE.) How glad I am to see you and little Piccolo! What would we do without that aggressive little chap? He whistles and sings in all our storm music and pipes shrilly in all our merry bands. Such a penetrating voice!

MRS. FLUTE.

How many people, my dear conductor, think of us as wood, when in reality we are descendants from the *qu-uno* of a bird! The cave men knew, so did the Egyptians, the Greeks and the Romans. And that dear, lovable Pan, now he has helped us! Did you know we were the oldest instruments in the orchestra?

THE CONDUCTOR.

Yes, I know; we all have our family tree. Even I have mine. If you are the oldest, I am the newest member of our party. Less than a hundred years ago conductors were nothing more than time beaters. I remember when I clapped my hands and stamped my feet to keep time;

(Enter CORNET and TROMBONE.)

I brought Trombone along. He's not so popular as I. Why, every boy in town knows me. They can't mistake my voice because they hear it so often, in brass bands, in Sunday-school and in our or-

chestra.

TROMBONE.

(Looking at CORNET coldly.) Well, I'm glad I'm not so common. Mendelssohn said I was too sacred to use often. For my part, I would like to see any composer do without me. I can be lofty, majestic, pompous, heroic, devout, mocking, threatening. I'm as expressive as any or all of you put together.

THE WHOLE ORCHESTRA.

Please don't be offended. We know your versatility, and we know how every composer needs you. But tell us where Tubu is to-night.

MRS. TROMBONE.

He declared that he was too fat to get through the doorway.

THE WHOLE ORCHESTRA.

(None all!) We'll go over and get him. They all go out with the exception of

THE CONDUCTOR.

(Opening Beethoven's Fifth Symphony.) Now I'm alone, I'll go over the score. Here are seventeen staves; I wonder how many piano students could read that page. Here is the first staff, and the family of Woodwinds. Here in the middle are the Brasses, separating the horns and trumpets from the trombones, and here I am, on the last five staves are the Violin family.

(Goes to the piano and plays, bringing all the parts together, transposing those which do not stand as written, and reading the different clefs at sight as he plays. A piano student, who is catching him through the keyhole, faints at the overwhelming feat. The Violin family tries to help him into the room. They try and the BRASSES follow, leading the twin KETTLE DRUMS.)

MISS FIRST VIOLIN.

Here's a poor piano student I found in a faint outside the door. Don't be too hard on him, Conductor; he

only reads from two clefs, you know.

Tuba we found drinking soda water with the Kettle Drum. Now we are all here, can't we begin?

(They take their places in the chairs on the platform, the two Kettle Drums going to the rear. The Conductor steps forward and says with his baton, The piano student sinks into the nearest seat. At hot moment the window opens and there stands a FAIRY HARB.)

THE HARB.

Watch out for Richard Strauss! He is on his way to our reunion. I am sent to warn you.

(She disappears through the window.)

THE WHOLE ORCHESTRA.

How horrible! We shall all be worked to death.

(They scramble under tables; they hide behind bookcases and chairs. The Conductor bars the door and the music student turns off the lights.)

TWO GAMES FOR LITTLE FOLKS.

MUSICIANS AND FLOWERS.

A Game in Acrostics.

The first letter of the following flower names will spell a composer's name. Upon separate cards print the names of flowers, for example: *Hyacinth, Primrose, Oxalis, Zinnia, Althea, Rose, and Thyme.* Give these cards to the player; from them he will get the name of Mozart. To another give *Begonia, Rose, Alyssum, Heliotrope, Marigold, Smilax.* To the third give *Fern, Rose, Anemone, Nasturtium, Zinnia.* To the fourth give *Rhododendron, Aster, Fuchsia, Foxglove.* To the fifth, *Thyme, Ribwort-plant, Arbutus, Umbrella-pine, Sunflower, Verger.* To the sixth, *Lily, Lavender, Safron, Zinnia, Tuberosa.* To the seventh, *Balsam, Anemone, Clematis, Hibiscus.* To the eighth, *Hollyhock, Alyssum, Yucca, Daisy, Nasturtium.* Award a prize of the composer's picture to the successful player. After the game the leader should play short compositions from these composers and tell briefly some interesting points in their lives.

THE GLASSES.

About two hundred years ago, in England, there was a rage for what was known as "The Glasses." In reality it was a harmonica, an instrument made of glasses, and which, by applying the finger moistened with water, produced tones which on that day were considered "agreeably common."

The players then arrange the "Galleries" at the edge of the table. The leader, usually the teacher, plays parts of familiar compositions from each composer represented in the table. The children begin their march again and the one who is first to recognize the composition shouts aloud the composer's name and takes his picture as his trophy. The one who captures the greatest number of pictures wins the prize. This game may be carried into the study of present-day musicians by using the pictures which have been issued in "THE ETUDE GALLERY OF MUSICIANS AND FLOWERS" every month since February, 1909.

"The Glasses" remained a popular instrument for many years, and Mozart and Beethoven did not disdain to compose for them.

Any boy or girl can make a harmonica with glasses. Take ordinary glasses that harmonize—the tone may be varied by water—and a certain scale. In making the tone do not press hard upon the edge of the glass; try a light, caressing touch, and you will feel a slight vibration at the finger tips as the tone is produced.

TEACHER AND PILOT.

When a great vessel leaves the dock she is fully manned and equipped. At a long sea voyage, but before she can take her way across the long, gray stretches of ocean she has to be guided through the shallow and cross-currents of the harbor. She is, therefore, placed in the hands of a pilot, who takes command of her until the harbor bar is safely crossed and she can be left in the hands of her own crew.

Remember that a music teacher can only pilot you through the preliminary stages of your musical study. He can take the place of the dangers of the harbor, and help you with his knowledge of the eddies and cross-currents, the shoals and hidden rocks, which compass you at the beginning of your musical career. A time must come when you will have crossed the bar, and will have to face the ocean of life alone. See to it, therefore, that before you start on your musical career you are fully equipped with the sails of imagination, the captain and crew of intelligence and activity, a cargo of solid knowledge and a sturdy ballast of common sense.

He who in literature is unfamiliar with the latest examples of the art, is considered uneducated. Should it not be likewise in music?—R. Schumann.

THE MUSICIAN'S GALLERY.

This is the name of the first game. The object of the game is to familiarize young musicians with the names, portraits and the music of the great composers.

From the penny picture collections, or, better still, from pictured supplements of old ETUDES, procure as many pictures of famous composers as possible. At first use sixteen, from Bach to Verdi. The pictures should be of uniform size (4x6 inches). Cut off the margins, leaving only the name at the bottom. Paste upon stiff cardboard, then cut the pictures into six pieces (1x4 inches). Place these blocks, picture side up, in the center of the table; at the word "Begin" each child dives into the pile and takes three pieces. If any of these pieces match, she puts them together. The children then march three times around the table, picking from any other player's "Gallery," and from the center pile any pieces they may recognize as belonging to them. They continue to build the "Gallery" and to march around the table in search of material until all the pictures are complete.

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THE CONDUCTOR.

Watch out for Richard Strauss! He is on his way to our reunion. I am sent to warn you.

(She disappears through the window.)

THE WHOLE ORCHESTRA.

How horrible! We shall all be worked to death.

(They scramble under tables; they hide behind bookcases and chairs. The Conductor bars the door and the music student turns off the lights.)

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PUBLISHER'S NOTES

A Department of Information Regarding New Educational Musical Works

The Secret "All's well that begins of Making a wail" (to reverse the phrase of the master of Good Start.

Avon) would make a most excellent motto for teachers. One of the most important things about "getting ready" time is that of insuring the receipt of a full and complete stock of all of your teaching needs well in advance of the actual beginning of your season. Many teachers make the really serious mistake of postponing their selection of music until the opening of the teaching season in September. What is the result? The teacher finds himself confronted with the very necessary business of seeing that all the old pupils come back as soon as possible. In the general confusion he has no time to make well-thought-out selections. He makes a haphazard selection, sends in his order and then expects to receive his selection in less time than express trains can possibly bring it to him. How much better it would be for both the teacher and the pupil if a well-chosen stock of standard musical necessities were already in the teacher's study, long before the first fall pupil enters. This gives the teacher a chance to become acquainted with the musical novelties and to arrange his stock so that when the pupils do come he can "lay his finger" on any desired piece at once. Don't think that people do not notice whether the teacher has made these preparations or not. They "take it all in," and the estimate of the teacher's worth is based on little things (?!). Like this: Please send your "on sale" order at your earliest possible convenience and we will guarantee that the music will be received on the day you designate.

Gluck, the father of the opera, made his bow before the public at the Haymarket Theatre, in London as a performer on the violin in one of Horace Walpole's letters. (Horace Walpole was a writer of fashionable gossip of that day.) He describes Gluck's concert on the musical glasses as stirring the fashionable world.

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Treble Clef Album The announcement of this new volume will prove of interest to all teachers who work with beginners or who have students in the early grades. We have now in preparation an album for the pianoforte which will consist entirely of pieces in which both hands lie throughout in the treble clef. We shall include in this volume thirty very best and most attractive treble clef pieces we can find. Every number will be a gem. All the pieces will be easy to play and the book will be carefully graded, starting with Grade I. We shall avoid the common fault in most treble clef pieces of having them too difficult. A treble clef piece, to be useful, should be easy to play and suited to small hands. Moreover, it should be melodious and of such a character as to appeal to the young student. Our new volume is planned along these lines.

The special introductory price during the current months will be 20 cents if cash accompanies the order. If charged, postage will be additional.

New Graded Ad We are now publishing "Graded Advertisements" by Isidor Philipp. This important pedagogical work devoted to special departments of technique. We have so far published "Fingering Together," "Left Hand Technique" and "Octaves and Chords." The next volume to be issued will be the one devoted to "The Trill." This is a branch of pianoforte technique to which great attention should be devoted, and it should be a source of gratification to find assembled in one volume the sittings of all the best exercises devoted to this other volume of the trill. All forms of trills are treated, including trills for the weak fingers, trills for the strong fingers, for the right hand, for the left hand, the chain trill, combined trill and trills accompanying the melody.

The special advance price of this volume during the current month will be 20 cents, postpaid, if cash accompanies the order. If charged, postage will be additional.

Large Piano. This house sells hundreds of thousands of sheets of music. A special catalogue has been made for this purpose. In fact, this house has made a great specialty of musical publications of all kinds and sizes. We desire to draw special attention to the fact that we have these pianotype postcard pictures in large sizes, mounted on class papers, unmounted but printed on heavy paper, 9x11, for 50 cents each.

Our stock includes: Bach, Beethoven (5 positions), Berlioz, Brahms, Bizet, Brno, Grieg (2 positions), Handel, Haydn, Liszt, Mendelssohn, Mozart, Paganini, Schubert, Schumann (2 positions), Strauss, Tchaikovsky, Wagner (2 positions), Weber, Wagner and Young.

